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Cedars

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1-25-2007

## Cedars, January 25, 2007

Cedarville University

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EVER VISIT A BOOK STORE  
WHERE CATS ROAM FREE?  
WE HAVE THE SCOOP ON  
PAGE 7



SURE, THEY EASE THE  
MIGRAINE, BUT WHAT ARE  
OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS  
REALLY DOING TO YOU?  
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CEDARVILLE'S LADY JACKETS  
CONTINUE TO EXCEL. CHECK  
OUT THE DETAILS ON  
PAGE 10



# CEDARS

01.25.07

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY

VOL. 55 ISS. 7

## Administration Responds to Peti- tion Controversy

· REBEKAH SHIPPER ·  
NEWS EDITOR

On Monday, Jan. 15, a group of about 125 students gathered in the SSC event rooms for a meeting regarding a petition concerning the administration's response to the truth and certainty issue. The petition, written at the end of last semester, was sent to about forty trustees.

In his opening statement at the meeting, Dr. Carl Ruby, Vice President of Student Services, described the circumstances surrounding the petition as among "the most difficult and most painful situations I have ever encountered."

Present at the meeting were two trustees, Ms. Debbie Stephens and Rev. Jeff Willetts. Also present were faculty members Dr. Tom Hutchison, Dr. Chris Miller, Dr. Tim Gombis, Dr. David Mills, and Dr. Scott Calhoun. Mr. Bob Rohm, Vice President of Christian Ministries, was also present.

The purpose of the meeting was to address the petition, its effects, and the University's plans for how to proceed in response to the letter.

The letter called for the recently adopted Truth and Certainty Statement to be made binding for all faculty. The administration contends that having faculty actually sign the statement itself is unnecessary for a number of reasons, one of which is that faculty already

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## Despite Alternatives, Campus Bookstore Still a Reliable Option

· STERLING MEYERS ·  
STAFF WRITER

Cedarville University students recently purchased textbooks for this semester's classes by visiting the campus bookstore, networking with other students, and searching for online retailers.

According to a recent BusinessWeek.com article, textbook prices have nearly tripled since 1986. In response to high prices, online textbook businesses have emerged as an option for students looking for used or electronic books. According to BusinessWeek.com, concerned university students have helped start online resources such as textbookrevolution.org, a Web site offering free, legal electronic texts for download.

Along with online sources such as campusi.com and half.com, many Cedarville students depend on each other to purchase used books. During the first weeks of classes this semester, book ads again exploded to over 2,000 listings on Cedarville's Classifieds page.

According to Cedarville's textbook buyer, Rill Thompson, more than 90 percent of students



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Students buy their textbooks for the new semester at CU's bookstore.

at Cedarville live on campus, allowing more students to network with each other than buy online.

First-year student Mychaela Sherry heard sophomores in her unit talk about the benefits of buying used books. "This semester I bought all of my books through friends or on Classifieds, and saved so much money," said Sherry.

Although students have the

opportunity to purchase books online, these often arrive after classes begin. Senior Katherine Ferrell notes, "I've never done online buying because I've seen how long it can take for some people to get their books."

Senior John Hawkins recently purchased a \$10 book for 99 cents online, and stated, "The only downside is the shipping."

Shipping costs and delays are

not factors for students buying from the Cedarville bookstore. Rill Thompson states that a specially ordered book can arrive at the bookstore within a week's time, without additional cost to the student.

At the start and end of semesters, students are able to sell used

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## Bundenthal, Michaud, and Scott Break School Records

· JOSHUA SAUNDERS ·  
STAFF WRITER

The Cedarville men's track and field squad competed at Ohio Northern University on Jan. 19 against ONU, Findlay, Tiffin, Wilmington, Defiance, and Bluffton. Cedarville scored 125 points to earn third place overall. ONU won the meet with 181.16 points,

while Findlay finished second with 167.

Cedarville may have been third, however, they were competing without two of their top performers, Jason Scott and Daniel Roberts. Scott was in Reno,

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JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

## Task Team Formed in Response to Soulforce Visit

· KRISTA KOWATCH ·  
STAFF WRITER

The university has responded to the announcement that Soulforce will visit Cedarville's campus on April 19, by forming the Equality Ride Task Team.

The Task Team handles public relations and event planning for the day Soulforce comes, and will provide workshops for students.

"We have not invited them," said Dr. Carl Ruby. "We've sent them a letter to let them know [that] if they're trying to change our policy, we're not interested."

Directors from other schools where Soulforce visited say the group has not disrupted campus life but has lived by agreements made prior to the visits.

"This protest visit, although not our choosing, will provide an unprecedented opportunity to study the topic [of homosex-



DAN TELLO :: CEDARS

uality] and prepare all of us to clearly articulate a Biblical perspective," said Janice Supplee, leader of the Communications Team working on the Soulforce visit.

According to Ruby, the Task Team will be divided into two groups. An Events Team covers chapel services and seminars, while the Communications

Team handles the media and public relations aspects.

Lukas Seelye, the only student on the Task Team, represents the student body.

"I look forward to bringing a different perspective to the group," said Seelye. "I will

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## CEDARS | News

# MEL WHITE SHARES PERSONAL HISTORY BEHIND SOULFORCE

· SARAH PETERSEN ·  
STAFF WRITER

To most evangelical Christians, Soulfence is just another protest group. For founder Mel White, Soulfence is a platform to defend his lifestyle and the lifestyles of others like him.

Before founding Soulfence, White worked as a biographer for individuals such as Jerry Falwell, Billy Graham, and others who op-

pose the Gay-Lesbian-Transgender-Bisexual movement, while at the same time being a closeted gay man, something he described as an extreme struggle.

After putting himself through counseling, exorcism, and electric shock therapy to try and cure himself of this "disease," White concluded that he was gay and proud and

that God loved him, and White said of his chief opponent, "Falwell doesn't know what to do with it."

White recalled "the worst moment of my life" occurred after he separated from his wife and the two were eventually divorced. White continued to help co-parent his children until they were out of college and his partner and co-founder of Soulfence, Gary Nixon, moved to Lynchburg, VA. Here, they could be closer to Falwell, an openly anti-gay protester and the founder Liberty University in Lynchburg.

White and Nixon founded Soulfence in 1998. "It wouldn't have happened unless I was arrested," White said. While in jail, White was visited and encouraged by Coretta Scott King to not pay bail until he was able to tell his side of the story.

White had been a close friend and follower of Martin Luther King, Jr. since 1958 and was very well-acquainted with the principles of nonviolent revolution that King developed based on the teachings of Gandhi.

"Soulforce was born out of my discovery of these principles and putting these principles into action," White said.

"With Soulfence connecting homosexual rights with civil rights, it makes the issue very difficult to deny," Cedarville professor of Communication Arts Derrick Green, said. "It's not an accident they do it this way."

White is seeking change. One of the organization's main slogans reads "Learn from history, end religion-based oppression." The method of nonviolent confrontation is used because as White said, "Violence begets violence. Wars lead to more wars. Therefore, our main tactic is nonviolent resistance — out-love your enemy and leave a mark of shalom and peace on the world."

"There is a void of people who are gay and Christian — they leave their churches because of elders or pastors or members who condemn them," White said. Therefore, White, along with Soulfence, is "trying to end the tremendous loss of faith of gay people."

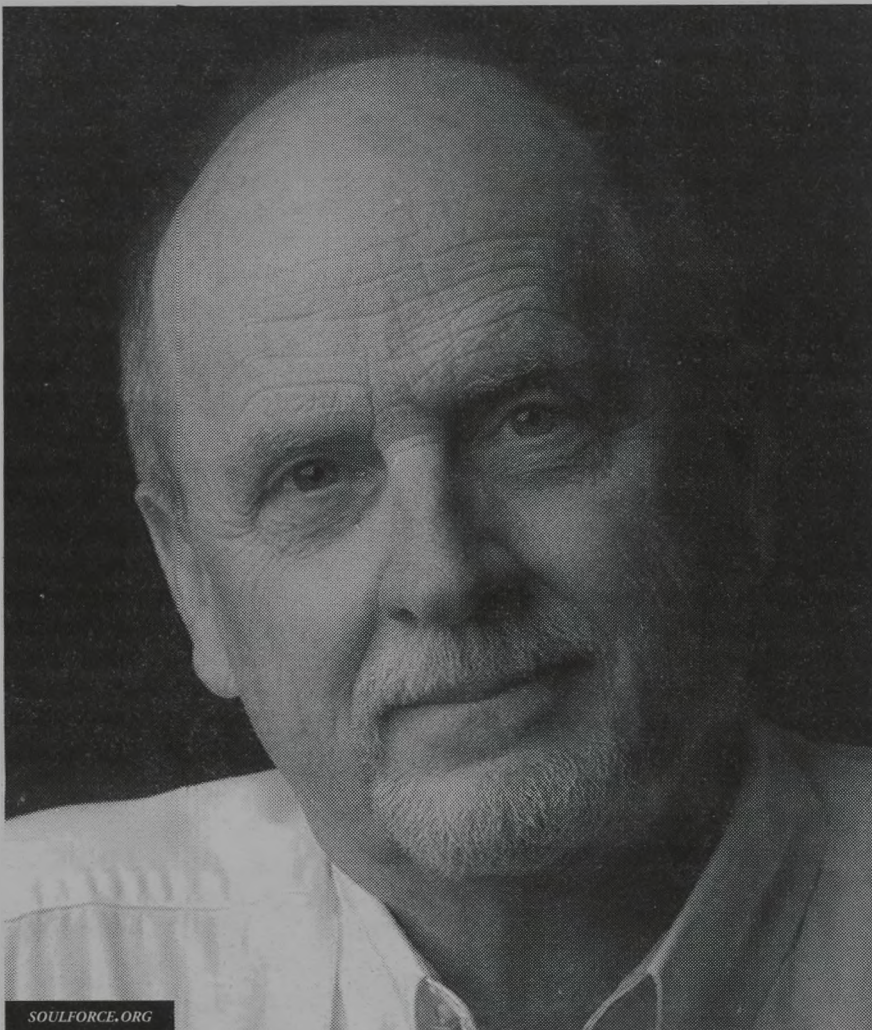
Professor Green agreed that a proper way of handling homosexuality with a Christian perspective has been difficult for many people. "If we can't effectively interact, then what is being a Christian all about?" He added, "This is where the rubber meets the road, where Christianity meets real issues."

Last year's Equality Riders were admonished by Georgia Congressman John Lewis to "make good trouble." White agreed, "Unless we cause trouble, the issue will stay buried."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., years earlier, made that same point when he said, "It may be necessary to engage in civil disobedience to further arouse the conscience of a nation."

White, through Soulfence, hopes to accomplish one mission — to arouse the consciences of many as Equality Riders travel the country, moving from campus to campus to protest in what White refers to as a "media-driven street fair" hoping to change minds and lives.

The next issue of Cedars will include a response to this article written by Dr. Carl Ruby, Vice President for Student Services. Soulfence has chosen Cedarville University for a visit because the group opposes the University's policy of strictly forbidding the practice or promotion of homosexuality. Look for Dr. Ruby's response in the Viewpoints Section of the February 8, 2007 issue.



## 'STUDENTS FOR LIFE' TO FOCUS ON PRO-LIFE ISSUES

· EMILY DOOT ·  
STAFF WRITER

Cedarville University recently granted approval to Students for Life, an organization new this semester and focused on raising campus awareness of various issues pertinent to pro-life and human rights causes.

According to Students' mission statement, the organization is viewed as a means of equipping students and faculty to take a united stand against the willful destruction of innocent life. The group will primarily focus on abortion; however, the Students want to be open to other human rights abuses that come to their attention, both nationally and internationally, said Murray Vasser, the president of the organization.

"We're not convincing people that abortion is wrong," explained Vasser. "We're motivating and equipping them to act. We want to help students get involved with activism efforts."

"Working together, I think we can brainstorm ideas and put them into action," added Dannielle Albert, Students' promotions manager.

Vasser said the ultimate goal of Students for Life is to see

abortion eliminated. He compared abortion to the slave trade once so ingrained in society that people thought it could never be removed. Much like the 19th-century abolitionists with their radical vision to end slavery, Students for Life has a vision to abolish abortion today.

"Students for Life's mission is not only to speak up for those without a voice, but also to encourage this body of believers to get involved in the fight for the right to live," said Albert.

The idea for Students for Life took wing last semester when a representative from the national organization Students for Life of America came to Cedarville's campus and urged students to start an independent pro-life group. Vasser and Albert, along with fellow officers Bethany Sibbitt and Karis Howard, agreed that a Christian campus offers a great opportunity to get Christians involved in standing up for the defenseless and determined to start a Cedarville pro-life organization.

Any group seeking official recognition as a Cedarville organization must proceed through the appropriate ave-



Bethany Sibbitt (Left), Murray Vasser (Middle), and Dannielle Albert (Right) members of "Students for Life."

nues; these include Jeff Beste, Associate Dean for Student Leadership Development in Student Life Programs; SGA; and administrators such as Dr. Carl Ruby, the vice president of Student Life.

"Students for Life is great because it seeks to educate and then enable students to get involved in the war of ethical is-

sues our society faces today," said Beste, who was instrumental in the endorsement of the organization.

Students' first meeting, featuring the president of the Cincinnati Right to Life organization, will be held February 1 at 7:00 p.m. in ENS 245, and is open to all students of all majors. The organization hopes

to host speakers, have letter drives to call Congress, and involve students in events with local pro-life groups.

"We want Cedarville University to know about these issues," Vasser said. "We think students can make a difference."



## University Names DeWine as "Visiting Scholar"

• ANGELA BACON •  
STAFF WRITER

Senator Mike DeWine is a "visiting scholar" this semester at Cedarville University.

He is working with Dr. Mark Smith, the director for the Center of Political Studies and assistant professor of political science.

"Senator DeWine called me the day after the November

election and came by for a visit. Because he has been associated with Cedarville University for many years, he expressed the desire to be a part of helping students get prepared

for government and political service," said Dr. Brown.

Cedarville University is not the only organization in which Senator DeWine is currently serving but, Dr. Brown said, "He is also involved in other schools and a law firm."

In 1999 Dr. Dixon and the Board of Trustees awarded Senator DeWine and his wife Fran the Medal of Honor "for their commitment to family, their leadership in the causes of free enterprise, responsible government, and traditional Christian values," Dr. Brown said.



CONTINUED FROM ALTERNATIVES ON FRONT PAGE

books to a buyback company hired by the Cedarville bookstore. If a book will be sold the following semester at Cedarville's bookstore, the company offers 50 percent of the new price for students' used books. According to CU bookstore supervisor Lee Matson, this percentage is above the industry average.

Bookstore personnel recognize the increasing prices of textbooks and work hard to compete with other sources for students' business. Although textbook sales amount to half of the bookstore's annual sales, the bookstore does not exist strictly for profit but also for service, according to Matson.

"We're here to serve," Matson said.

The bookstore staff acknowledges the difficulties and expenses of purchasing textbooks. According to the Rill Thompson, "We work with the faculty to get you, the student, what you need for your education at the best value we can provide."

CONTINUED FROM SOULFORCE ON FRONT PAGE

serve to bring ideas to the group and say whether or not I think the student body will respond to different events and courses of action carried out by the group."

Students will also have opportunities to participate and support the Task Team.

"This is a spiritual battle at its core," said Supplee, who encourages students to gain experience from this visit. In "the preparation process, take advantage of the opportunities to learn. Homosexuality is one of the most significant issues facing Christians, the church, and our culture today."

Seven workshops, starting on February 22 in chapel, will be held for students to familiarize themselves with the subject and prepare for Soulforsce.

"Make sure that you aren't ignorant on the issue," Seelye says to students. "There will be several opportunities to

attend group sessions and workshops featuring Cedarville faculty and guest speakers."

The workshops will cover topics such as Biblical positions on the topic, causes, bioethics, and public policy. The final workshop will be a prayer and dedication service.

"All of us need to be in prayer," said Supplee. "Dr. Ruby, who is leading the effort, has been doing much research, consulting with other universities, and praying through Cedarville's response."

Ruby emphasized the Task Team's commitment to Cedarville's Biblical stance on this issue.

"The overwhelming response from students and parents has been positive," said Ruby. "They appreciate that we're sticking to our convictions, and doing it in a loving way to share the Gospel."

CONTINUED FROM CONTROVERSY ON FRONT PAGE

sign and reaffirm the University Doctrinal Statement on an annual basis and no evidence exists that any faculty members hold views contrary to either the Doctrinal Statement or the Truth and Certainty Statement. The Truth and Certainty statement will also be included in the new Faculty/Staff handbook which all faculty reaffirm on an annual basis by signing a contract agreeing to abide by all of the Universities official standards of conduct.

The students' petition included statements such as, "I am convinced that the present administration is not predisposed to do the job," and "I wonder what Dr. Jeremiah would say to all this?"

Allegations such as these, and more, were "especially hurtful," said Ruby, and "blatantly untrue."

In his discussion, Ruby emphasized his belief that the students who wrote the petition did it not to intentionally harm the University, but because "they love Cedarville and want[ed] to be sure that Cedarville University continues its commitment to biblical education."

Ruby added that this desire is also embraced by the administration. In a unanimous resolution, the trustees reaffirmed this commitment at the meeting, adding their support for how the current administrative team responded to this issue.

Ruby concluded Monday night's meeting with a time for questions from the students. The students' questions revealed emotions of confusion, anger, concern, and sadness.

Trustee Willets closed in prayer and all of the faculty and administrators stayed to take questions from those who remained.

On Monday, Jan. 22, Dr. Brown announced in chapel that meetings will be scheduled to address the theological issues raised in the petition, and that anyone wanting to attend should contact his office. He expressed a willingness to have enough meetings so that everyone with concerns will have an opportunity to discuss the issues and ask questions.

## Study Abroad Program Offers Unique Educational Experience

• ANNA CUMMINGS •  
STAFF WRITER

The world is getting smaller. More and more people travel. Companies are going global.

In response, U.S. Congress formed the Lincoln Commission in 2004 to encourage study abroad. According to [lincolncommission.org](http://lincolncommission.org), "An understanding of the diverse cultures of the world" ... "should be an essential component of the 21st-century education of our nation's students. Direct exposure to foreign languages and other aspects of these cultures can best be achieved through a meaningful study abroad experience."

According to the 2006 survey by the Institute of International Education, the number of U.S. students studying abroad has been steadily increasing over the last 20 years, and Ohio ranked number nine on the list of states sending students abroad.

Cedarville University, however, only sends 45 to 50 students each year to study abroad through its semester programs.

Laverne Dickey, administrative assistant at Cedarville's Department of Travel Study, thinks the number of Cedarville students studying abroad will increase in the future because more and more visiting parents express a desire for their children to experience different cultures in order to be more attractive to prospective employers.

The department of Travel Study headed by Dr. Andrew Wiseman became an independent entity at Cedarville two years ago and now sends students to countries all over the world, from England to South Korea to Uganda.

Cedarville works with many study-abroad programs, all of which are listed on the university Web site. In the future, Cedarville may work independently.

During May term, Cedarville offers

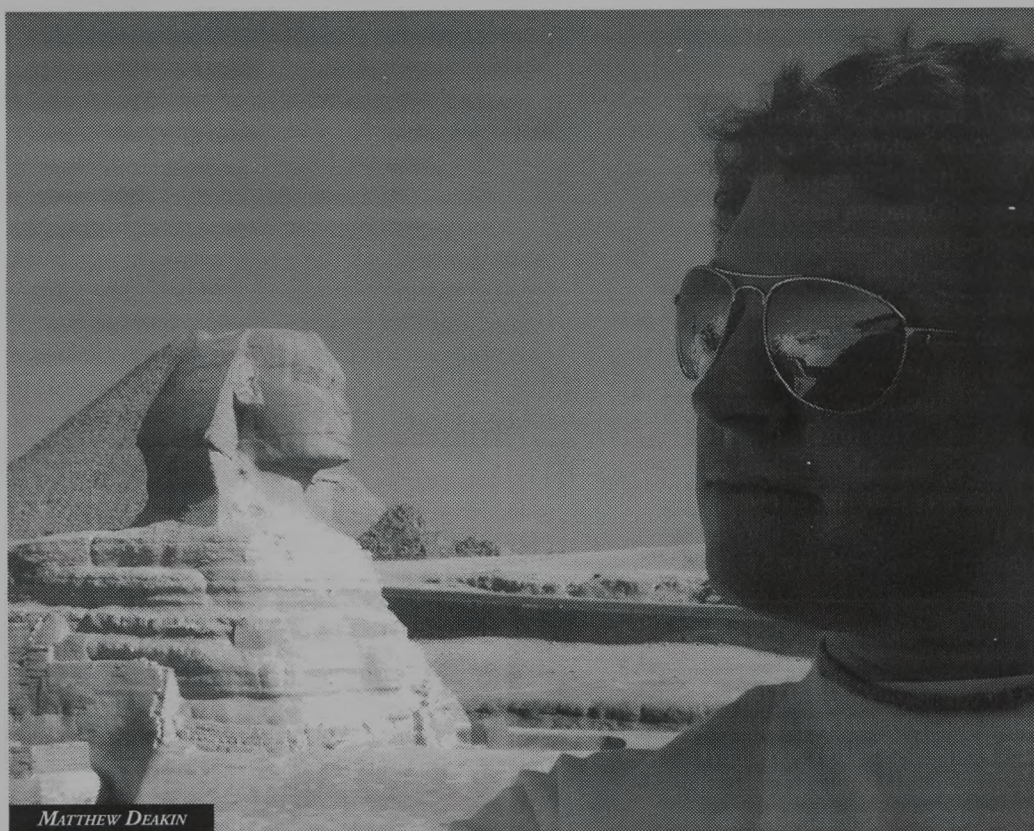
students who live abroad must adjust to living according to the local conditions, often with a local family. There is also risk of homesickness, which Dickey says tends to set in four to five weeks into a program. Some students are understandably hesitant to leave friends and family for several months.

For Matthew Deakin, a student who spent the 2006 winter semester in the Middle East, "The worst part was being away from some of the important things that were going on back home. A bunch of my friends got married, and I really missed my family and girlfriend. You [have to] miss stuff like Thanksgiving and Halloween, and that makes you think about home."

Despite the downfalls, there are benefits to studying abroad that many students may not consider. As Professor Peggy Wilfong, who taught in Ireland over the 2006 May term, put it, "Being in Dublin prompted students to appreciate the maxim 'no text is created in a vacuum.' Exploring neighborhoods mentioned in James Joyce's short story collection *Dubliners*, touring the prison where most of the leaders of the Easter Rising were executed, hiking miles and miles of rugged trails leading from one small coastal village to the next, taking weekend train trips to the western and northern coasts of Ireland — these represent only a smattering of the cultural experiences that helped students sense the intimate relationship between a text and its context."

Travel study also provides numerous ministry opportunities. Laura Walach, who lived with a non-Christian woman in Ireland, recalls, "It challenged me in a lot of ways, but my faith [grew] in tremendous ways."

Traveling is another bonus — though it may also be a hidden expense. Whitney Miller, who studied in Israel, remarks that



MATTHEW DEAKIN

classes taught by Cedarville professor overseas. However, Cedarville tries to emphasize the semester programs because they encourage a fuller understanding of a country's culture. Students who study abroad are still enrolled at Cedarville and their financial aid still applies, as do many scholarships. Most students receive the same grades abroad as they did at Cedarville; the costs for these programs vary.

When asked how important she considers these cross-cultural experiences, Mrs. Dickey replied, "The majority of students ought to study abroad, if they can, to engage the culture."

There are, of course, negative aspects to studying abroad. According to Dickey, negative attitudes in students often lead to negative experiences. Additionally, stu-

traveling to places such as Tel Aviv and Galilee was actually part of her classes at Jerusalem University College.

According to Dickey, students are often scared to go, and while some later wish they had done something differently, no one has ever said he or she regretted going; in fact, many wish to go again.

Dickey encourages students who are interested to plan ahead by thoroughly checking out the Web site (<http://www.cedarville.edu/academics/travelstudy/>) before coming to see her. She advises students to begin research as freshmen and apply early for programs. She encourages students to take ownership of their choice of program and reminds them that Cedarville does not have an agreement with that program if it is not listed on the Web site.



# CEDARS | Viewpoints

## University and College Rankings: Qualitative v. Quantitative

· DR. WILLIAM E. BROWN ·  
PRESIDENT OF CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY

Most people don't realize that Lynne and I grew up in Florida. We graduated from rival high schools and then I attended a state university for a degree in Mathematics ("Go forth and multiply!"). Almost all of our family still live there and when we say, "We're going home," we usually mean Florida even though we haven't lived there in 30 years.

The world looks very different south of I-4. White Christmas is only an old movie and any temperature under 60 degrees requires a heavy coat. [Example: My mother: "Where's your coat? It's in the 50's outside?" Me: "I'm fine, Mom. Really." My mother: "I taught you better than that." This was not when I was a teenager; this was three weeks ago.]

While celebrating the Christmas holidays with our family, I came across a New York Times article explaining the University of Florida's new initiatives to reach the heights of national academic status. The major component of their plan is to assess every student \$1,000 as a surcharge to allow them to hire more professors in an attempt to lower the faculty/student ratio. Is this to improve the quality of the education students receive? Nope. It is to improve their standing in the annual U. S. News and World Report college rankings. Their goal is to get into the top ten of public

universities and their current ratio of 22 faculty per student hurts their score.

Chairman of the Board, Manny Fernandez, points out that the rankings are everything. "I want to be on the cocktail party list of schools that people talk about, because that influences the decisions of great students and great faculty."

later in my academic career that one would teach a class I took. I remember one professor reminding us never to bother him because plenty of graduate students were available to meet all of our educational needs.

If you think I'm going to say, "We are so much better than state universities," you are wrong. Not

the university. But it's still the best way to go.

For Cedarville University, our commitments set us apart. We are committed to truth, God's Word, personal holiness, service to others, evangelism, and discipleship. We are also committed to excellence in academic programs and to an approach to student life that helps students develop their gifts and build dreams to make a difference in the world for Christ.

Do we fall short? Many times in many areas - but we don't give up. With goals like these we never really "arrive." I am grateful to the students, faculty and staff who recognize that Cedarville University will always be a work in progress (just as all of us are personally). We are all in this together. We must continually be growing, adapting and becoming more effective in what God has called us to be.

We don't set goals and strategies to improve our rankings. While it's great that Cedarville University is highly ranked by U.S. News and World Report; it is the fruit of our commitments, not the root. We look elsewhere for affirmation and objectives. To paraphrase Charles Habib Malik, the most important question to ask is, "What does Jesus Christ think of Cedarville University?"

**“ On the other hand, setting qualitative goals is risky and sets you up for criticism, both outside and inside the university. But it's still the best way to go.**

My own experience in the state university system was eye-opening. I, like most other 18 year olds, thought bigger was better. With tens of thousands of other students, we enjoyed the anonymity provided by the academic behemoth. Most of our interaction was with each other, Teaching Assistants and Resident Assistants. Rarely were our lives encumbered by adults. I knew there were adults around somewhere (I'd seen them in the university promotional literature) but it wasn't until

only is it inappropriate; it's like comparing apples to airplanes. Colleges and universities are so different that most comparisons are pointless.

But I do know that bigger is not better - better is better. But how you measure "better" is crucial. On one hand, setting a goal to improve a college's ranking is easy: you either get it or you don't. On the other hand, setting qualitative goals is risky and sets you up for criticism, both outside and inside

## Letter From the Editor

· JENNA MARCUM ·  
VIEWPOINTS EDITOR

As the newest editor of Viewpoints, I'd like to personally welcome you to the section.

Our goal here in the Op-ed section is not to produce pieces with which you will disagree, nor is it to offer views which fly in the face of contemporary convention. Rather, this section is designed to bring timely, significant, and controversial subjects to the table of discussion.

Both as Christians and members of society, it is important that we be well-informed of different sides of current debates. Here at Cedars, we want to supply you with the tools you'll need to produce well-reasoned, strong arguments regarding current (yet often overlooked) issues of controversy.

This semester we've made some changes, hoping to make Viewpoints even more fresh, exciting, and informative. The section will not only feature articles written by our Cedars staff members, but will project the voice of Cedarville faculty members, CU students studying abroad, and perhaps most importantly—you. This semester, we will be publishing a few letters to the editor in hopes of providing a venue through which your voice can be heard, and which will help us shape Viewpoints to better meet the needs of the student body.

The point is—we're here for you.

## THE PRIVACY ISSUE: AN UNEASY MIND

· MICHAEL SHIRZADIAN ·  
STAFF WRITER

(Editor's note: This is the first article in a two-part series on privacy v. technology.)

"The right to be let alone is indeed the beginning of all freedom." ~ Justice William O. Douglas

I reminisce of the days when I used technology to ascertain directions from my house to the local ice-cream store, to check the grammatical precision of a third grade essay on Thomas Jefferson, and to demonstrate subject-verb agreement in my first high school Spanish skit.

It seems, however, that as technology has become

**“ It seems, however, that as technology has become more advanced, privacy has taken a catastrophic plunge off the diving board of propriety and into the muddled waters of injustice.**

more advanced, privacy has taken a catastrophic plunge off the diving board of propriety and into the muddled waters of injustice. Today, society has no more privacy than a plant in a greenhouse.

When uLocate, North America's leading publisher of mobile location services, first announced plans to put tracking devices into cell phones, the public looked on with a relative sense of anticipation.

Since then, parents have purchased cell phones for their children with this locating service implanted. A curious parent can now monitor a child's exact location at all times, be alerted when a child enters a

specified location (i.e. sports bar, friends house, etc.), and even set geographic parameters, a metaphoric electric fence if you will, which, when breached, alerts the parent with a catchy ring tone. Comparable tracking devices are being planted in shoes too.

What is wrong with tracking your child, one may ask? As a University of Washington study stated, "A bad person could use this information to compromise your personal privacy and safety."

The study went on to explain that, "When you walk, the sensor in your shoe will transmit messages using a wireless radio," which are messages that can be picked up by hackers and used to discern someone's exact whereabouts. The study estimates that a "bad person" would need no more than \$250 to build a full-scale surveillance system.

But what really surprises me is the market in which covert surveillance thrives. An intrusive individual can now purchase common household items with cameras cleverly hidden within them. These items range from alarm clocks, computer speakers, air fresheners, flowerpots, VCR's, sunglasses, pagers, picture frames, sprinklers, light bulbs, pens, and my personal favorite - dictionaries. Had Francis Bacon lived in this technological age, his famous quote might have read, "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be used as covert surveillance devices."

But where do we draw the line? At what point does technological advancement trample upon someone's fundamental right to privacy? At what point will this grand nation, which boasts, "Equal Justice, Under Law," decide that we have gone too far?

### CEDARS

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Cedars, the student newspaper of Cedarville University, has as its goal providing news, information, and viewpoints about our local, national, and global world. Cedars strives to offer accurate information and thoughtful opinions which promote biblical thinking and participation in the communities in which we live.

The opinions expressed in Cedars are held by the individual writers and are not necessarily held by the Cedars staff or by Cedarville University.



# Both Sides of the Street: Life as a 'Townie'

· JUSTIN KELLER ·  
STAFF WRITER

During my junior year at Cedarville High School, I was sitting in class when an explosion rumbled the room. My classmates and I stopped taking notes while some ventured over to the window to look for any sign of the blast.

"Sit down; sit down," our teacher said, pointing across the street to the university. "They found another nonbeliever, that's all." And everyone laughed for a good ten minutes.

A fellow student once mentioned in class that someday he'd like to stand outside and fire a gun, because no matter where he aimed, he was bound to hit a college student. Again, the laughter.

While these scenes certainly aren't indicative of every high school student's feelings, the kind of low-burning animosity underscoring the laughter at these morbid jokes was definitely common.

As the son of a University staff member, I was a bit of a contradiction. I often enjoyed the benefits of college life, go-

ing to basketball games and participating in other campus events. At the same time however, I understood my friends' complaints, their feelings of dispossession when college students flooded into our small town each academic semester.

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**Sure, we all complained about how boring Cedarville was, but it was our town and therefore our right to do so.**

Sure, we all complained about how boring Cedarville was, but it was our town and therefore our right to do so.

As a university student, I've had the opportunity to hear the grumblings from this side of the street as well. When I mention to my friends the irritation that

many high school students feel toward their university counterparts, most reply by expressing the importance of the university to the ecology of the town.

And the point is well taken. Certainly, the university is a significant part of this town. University employees and their children comprise a good portion of Cedarville's population. During the school year, the town is awash with college students, from which local businesses definitely profit. Many of the villagers, including high school students, understand that

the university presents the community with myriad benefits. Regardless, the tension, the low-burning animosity, still exists.

After experiencing life on both sides of the street, I can't help but continue to give my sympathies to the kids who

grow up here. Unintentionally, I'm sure, university students often seem to treat the town like a rental and its inhabitants like employees. High school students often perceive a sense of superiority in university students, a "they need us" attitude. Regrettably, high school students can even pick up this air of superiority from an accidentally neglected "hello" on the street.

In the end, I don't think anyone wants the university to disappear. In fact, many of my high school friends would have been far more accepting of university students had they felt accepted themselves.

Just like anyone else, anywhere else, I'm sure the year-round residents of Cedarville would appreciate college students who take the time to learn their names and understand their stories. While it may not seem like it, the village of Cedarville exists apart from the university, and those people who identify themselves with the town deserve to be understood and respected.

## NOTES FROM ABROAD: OXFORD

· LISA KLINE ·

*Editor's Note: This is first in a six-part series featuring Cedarville University students studying abroad. This author spent this past semester studying in Oxford, England.*

A typical day in the life of an Oxford student: roll out of bed, get dressed, wander downtown, and sit at a little table in a coffee shop. Spend the next five hours sitting, writing. With hundreds upon hundreds of years of history all around—this "City of Spires" has been home to the likes of J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis.

On a different college campus three thousand miles away, "Cedarville Bubble" is a common phrase. The bubble is definitely there—it's all too easy to settle into the comfort of our little Christian niche

separated from the world. This past semester, I left the bubble. I had no idea what I was getting myself into as I left the land of Cedarville for a semester abroad at the University of Oxford. It was one of the best experiences of my life, but was also one of the hardest.

I spent the semester living in a flat not far from Oxford's city center. No curfew, no room checks, no RAs to give demerits—it was a far cry from Cedar-life. Around here, a weekend trip to Chicago or Indianapolis is a big deal. Last semester, a weekend in Paris or Dublin was not out of the ordinary.

Academically, Oxford was just as different. The University runs on a tutorial system, where each student meets with a tutor individually four to eight times each semester. In addition to a weekly seminar and a few other require-

ments, I had a total of twelve classes stretched out over eight weeks. Some weeks, I had no classes at all. I suddenly faced a lot of "free" time which required extreme amounts of self-discipline. For example, I would go two weeks without a class, but at the end of that period I would owe the professor a three thousand word assignment detailing Chaucer's stylistic methods in an ancient epic poem. My time at Oxford was life-changing—an experience that made me appreciate just how much I love my everyday life here.

Four months alone in a foreign country taught me so much about myself, about God, and about life in general. As amazing as Oxford was, being there not only made me realize how much I take for granted my life here at Cedarville, but it also helped me to more fully appreciate the "bubble."

“

**strictly speaking**

"The one who will pay is the one who fills up the BMW."  
—Hugo Chavez, on gasoline taxes, 1.21.07

"I know the power of words, especially those that demean." —Isaiah Washington, from *Grey's Anatomy*, after making an "unacceptable" remark backstage at the Golden Globes, 1.15.07

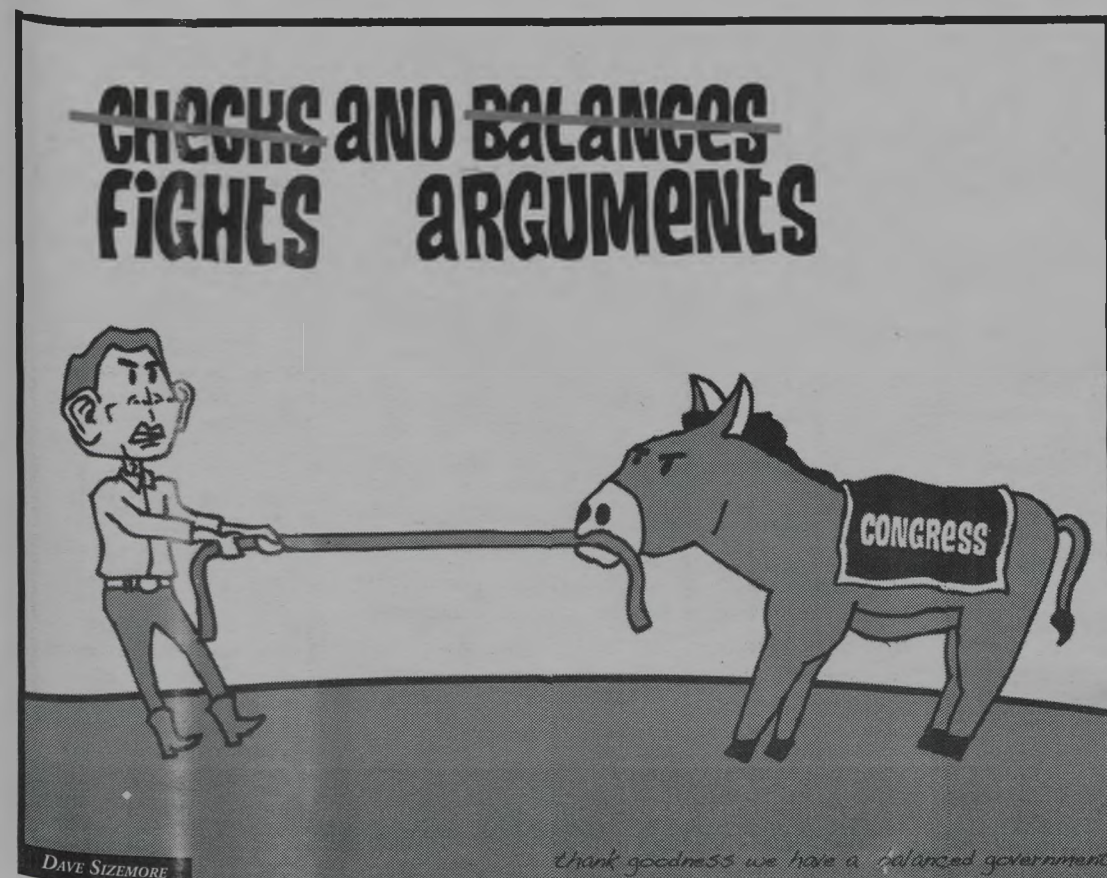
"It's time for President Bush to face the reality of Iraq. And the reality is this: America has paid a heavy price." —Senator Richard Durbin, 1.10.07

"Throughout our history, Americans have always defied the pessimists and seen our faith in freedom redeemed. Now America is engaged in a new struggle that will set the course for a new century. We can and we will prevail."  
—President Bush, in a speech addressing the nation, 1.10.07

"The parents are responsible [for anorexia], not fashion." —Gisele Bundchen, supermodel, 1.21.07

"The last couple of years have been quite a ride for me, the media has criticized my every move and printed a skewed perception of who I really am as a human being," —Britney Spears, singer, 1.5.07

Compiled by Jenna Marcum









## CEDARS | Arts &amp; Entertainment

# Beware of the Cat —and the Kitsch

JENNA MARCUM  
VIEWPOINTS EDITOR

I'll admit—before last week, I had never ventured into Dark Star Books in Yellow Springs. I was put off by the name, by the strange window decorations and the diminutive appearance. After a few minutes in the bookstore, however, I realized that these shortcomings are not indicative of the shop's quality.

In fact, Dark Star Books is relatively pleasant. It is much larger inside than it appears from the street, and it offers all the charms of a second-hand bookstore: worn books lining the floor, shelves packed to capacity, and dust coating absolutely everything.

The bookstore caters to the collegiate budget; students receive 10 percent off with a valid college ID, and every Wednesday books are 20 percent off. The owners advertise that most paperbacks are under \$3, and that most hardbacks are under \$10.

However, when I visited the bookstore, the selection left much to be desired. While they carried books by Alice Walker, they did not have *The Color Purple*, and while they had Roddy Doyle, they did not have *The Barrytown Trilogy*. While they had an Elie Wiesel biography, they had neither *Night* nor *Dawn*, nor Kurt Vonnegut's

*Slaughterhouse Five*, nor Joseph Heller's *Catch 22*.

To the storekeepers' credit, they do offer a few good finds, such as Joan Didion's *Salvador* and Gabriel Garcia Marquez's *100 Years of Solitude*. However, these titles were mixed amongst so much literary kitsch that they were rendered nearly invisible.

While the philosophy section is meager at best, the vintage book section is quite impressive. Dark Star offers many old prints of classic titles, such as William Faulkner's *Light in August* and miscellaneous books by Charles Dickens. When in doubt, vintage books make for both excellent and personal gifts, and can be very affordable. Prices vary based on scarcity and condition.

Dark Star Books also carries used sheet music, vinyls, DVDs, CDs, comic books, and more.

As an aside, it is interesting to note that the store owners have an uncanny affinity with cats. Students who have visited Yellow Springs have likely seen one of the black cats roaming the streets. The newest, Mr. Eko, is supposedly a favored tourist attraction.

Dark Star Books is located on 237 Xenia Ave. in Yellow Springs. It is open from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. on Monday-Thursday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. on Friday, and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, visit [www.darkstar-bookstore.com](http://www.darkstar-bookstore.com) or call (937) 967-9400.



## Shadowlands Forum Sheds Light on Pain and Hope

ALYSSA WEAVER  
STAFF WRITER

Last Thursday, Cedarville University hosted a public viewing of *Shadowlands*, a film about C.S. Lewis. The film was followed by a talk-back session that was inspirational and encouraging.

C. S. Lewis is regarded as one of the most celebrated Christian authors of the 21st century. While Lewis has received significant attention for his literary achievements, *Shadowlands* depicts him as a man broken and humbled by pain, one who journeys to find the ultimate source of hope.

Set in Oxford, England, in 1952, the film portrays Lewis (Anthony Hopkins) as a respected professor with a promising career as an author. He is comfortable with his solitary life, which he devotes to repeated lectures on the necessity of pain.

"We are blocks of stone out of which the sculptor carves the forms of men. The blows of his chisel, which hurt us so much, are what make us perfect," Lewis says, while lecturing on pain's virtuous carving at our character. "Something must drive us out of our nursery into the world—we must grow up!"

As the movie progresses, Lewis meets and falls passionately in love with a vibrant American woman, Joy Gresham (Debra Winger), who challenges his views and his disengaged lifestyle. With Gresham, Lewis experiences life and love in a fresh, vulnerable and euphoric way—until his new world is shattered with Gresham's diagnosis of cancer.

More than a biography, *Shadowlands* is about the importance

of pain. The film honestly portrays Lewis' struggle with grief and pain and his search for meaning. "The pain then is part of the happiness now," Lewis says.

The film's raw look at this acclaimed man leads the viewer to reflect on his or her personal struggles with pain. "Everyone hurts," said junior Katie Lippman, during a talk-back session after the film. "We can all find something to relate to in this movie."

Founder of the cancer support group HOPE, Lippman shared her personal pain over losing her father to cancer. "Hope is about being able to relate to each other. It's what Christ did for us; He suffered for us and comforts us so we can comfort others."

Many during the talk-back session echoed Lippman's honest words and shared their reflections on the film's portrayal of pain, hope and love, as well as their own deeply personal experiences.

HOPE exists to support members of the Cedarville University family who have been touched by the pain of cancer in their life or in the life of a loved one. Meetings include encouragement through Bible study, prayer, and praise. The first meeting will be held on Feb. 7th.

Students dealing with the pain of cancer can contact Lippman at [kalippman@cedarville.edu](mailto:kalippman@cedarville.edu) or Mr. Jon Purple, Dean for Student Life Programs, at [jpurple@cedarville.edu](mailto:jpurple@cedarville.edu).

"We've all had our own personal experiences. All have strength together in Christ," said Lippman, emotionally, but with hope.

## Sunrise Shares 'Good Food', Fun

WHITNEY MILLER  
STAFF WRITER

I chuckle every time I see the "Good Food" sign hanging from the Sunrise Café in Yellow Springs. It doesn't read, "Best Ribs in Town," or any other such pretentious nonsense. It just meekly states, "Good Food." And I smile, because that is exactly the sort of gorgeous understatement a petite, modest culinary haven like the Sunrise would make.

The Sunrise Café is clearly comfortable with its identity. As the "Good Food" sign suggests, the Sunrise is unconcerned with glossy advertisement. Anyone who has dined there knows the food is so much more than just "good." So why tantalize? Word of mouth keeps the Sunrise afloat.

There are not many tables inside the Sunrise; space is tight. Murals of the sun rising are painted in dreamy, blurred colors on the walls. Antique olive oil cans suspended from the ceiling serve as intimate table lamps. The Sunrise has the feel of a small mom-and-pop diner taken over by cleverly innovative hippies.

While one might doubt the innovation of the menu at such a small restaurant, the Sunrise is no greasy spoon. In fact, it is not greasy at all—nothing is deep-fried at the café.

The Sunrise offers a respectable variety of creative breakfast, lunch, and dinner op-

tions. The breakfast menu includes chocolate French toast, breakfast sandwiches, nine different types of omelets, and pancakes and biscuits.

Lunch offerings include pasta, soup du jour, a salad—the tabouli and Greek salads are especially nice—or one of their brilliant sandwich offerings, which are partnered with either potato chips or crunchy carrot chips. Students who are keen to take a gamble should select the Vick Burger, which gives the chefs a carte blanche to top the patty with whichever ingredients they fancy.

The Sunrise features delicious vegetarian sandwiches, including the handmade Veggie Burger and the Sunrise Euphoria, which is whole wheat toast slathered with almond butter and topped with slices of apple and banana, drizzled with honey. Another tasty choice is the Veggie Gyro, which consists of a whole wheat pita stuffed with artichoke hearts, olives, onions, spinach and tomatoes topped off with tzatziki sauce or balsamic vinegar and oil.

Students who fear they might need to change their political affiliations to eat at the Sunrise should not worry—the café serves several standard American sandwiches such as the Reuben and the Black Angus burger as well as classics like tuna salad and Club Double Decker. Dessert options are limited but usually include a generous slice of homemade pie or a bowl of organic Amish

ice cream. Even the desserts at this café are relatively healthy.

Concerning dinner: be warned that the prices skyrocket. Most lunch items range from \$4-\$6, but dinners cash in at between \$8 for a sandwich and \$14-\$24 for an entrée. With the exception of students with hot dates or inheritances from wealthy oil tycoon uncles, most college kids should stick with breakfast or lunch at the Sunrise.

Service at the café can be a little slack, but the servers are kind and personable, and the food is so good that most people forget about the wait once they start munching.

Of all the Sunrise options, I most highly recommend the crab cake sandwich. The Sunrise may be stuck in a landlocked state, but their crab cake sandwich is better than any I've tasted on the coast. The crab cake itself is tender and savory, nestled on a multi-grain bun toasted to just the right degree of buttery crispness and topped with vivid green lettuce, two fresh slices of deep red tomato, and spread with a choice of plain mayonnaise or the Sunrise's signature slightly sweet, slightly spicy creamy red pepper sauce. This sandwich is sheer bliss in the form of food. One bite launches the

diner into a crab cake Shangri-la.

The Sunrise Café is a cozy little nook full of warmth and quietly voluptuous cuisine, and it isn't going anywhere anytime soon. Students searching for some 'good food' should head over to 259 Xenia Ave. in Yellow Springs. Prepare to be delighted.

The Sunrise Café is open from 7:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and from 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. every weekday except Tuesday. It opens at 8:00 a.m. on Saturdays and 9:00 a.m. on Sundays, with evening hours the same as on weekdays. The Sunrise will be closed for an extended break from Jan. 16 until Feb. 1.





# New Yorker Sheds Light on American Intelligentsia

· TIMON REINER ·  
STAFF WRITER

Political analysis and humor, personal journeys leading to the rejection of spirituality, struggles in inner-city education, and cultural reviews—these themes and genres, emerging in the Jan. 15 issue, characterize *The New Yorker* magazine. While the magazine has been celebrated as a high American literary achievement, some of the content is troubling.

Jeffrey Goldberg's essay, *The Starting Gate*, examines and analyzes the state of the Democratic Party and presents an in-depth look at the most prominent party leaders, who happen also to be prospective 2008 presidential candidates. The essay sheds light on their ideas and opinions; Goldberg finds that notable Democrats such as Senator Barack Obama, Senator Hillary Clinton, and former Senator John Edwards take similar stances on most issues but differ on foreign policy.

*First Love* by Paul Rudnick offers a significant point of

contrast with his more serious political article. In this essay, Rudnick begins by referencing an interview with President Bush and the first lady conducted in *People* magazine. In the interview, Mrs. Bush discusses her favorite memory of her daughters at Christmas-time.

The author then uses the cute story to "continue" the interview, providing a "complete transcript." A series of ridiculous yet comical exchanges follow between husband and wife; by the conclusion, the humor reaches excessive, sexual levels.

Shalom Asher's *Playoffs* describes the author and his wife's progressive rebellion against God and Judaism during the 1994 Stanley Cup Championship series. Having moved to an apartment complex in a Jewish area of New Jersey, the couple finds ways to continue their feverish hockey fanaticism on the Sabbath without their neighbors' knowledge.

As the story develops, the author's word usage becomes

more profane, and the characters become increasingly bolder in breaking the Sabbath, finally violating it in front of their dumbfounded Sabbath-abiding neighbors.

Asher's rebellion against God reaches its peak when he hastily buys a hot dog from a street vendor and takes a big bite. "My cheeks stretched. My jaws ached. Mustard ran down my chin. I looked up at the sky, smiled at Him as best I could, and gave Him the finger. 'Tashtes pfiggy,' I managed to say."

*Expectations*, by Katherine Boo, narrates an inspiring story of a failed attempt at closing one of the most disreputable and lowest-enrolled learning institutions in Denver's inner city, Manual High School. The community reacted fiercely to Denver Public Schools Superintendent Michael Bennett's decision to close the school due to its ranking as one of Colorado's worst.

The reaction led Bennett to call off the school closure and launch a massive enrollment effort with the help of over

thirty staff members, volunteers, and students. The campaign convinced over 400 previous Manual High students to return for the next school year.

The theme of rebellion against God, even the very existence of God, reemerges in Adam Kirsch's story on Victorian-era poet Thomas Hardy's life and works. Kirsch traces the British poet's first inclinations toward atheism and the development of his anti-traditional poetry.

In this latest issue, *The New Yorker* continues to do what it does best, reflecting the culture and the current trends of thought among America's intelligentsia. Noble causes are highlighted, such as the fights to reform failing schools and to bring dropouts back into the education system.

However, this issue also features troubling themes relating to a negative view of God, themes which are not satisfactorily balanced with a different point of view. Crass sexual humor and profanity also lead one to question the magazine's alleged sophistication.

## Deadwood Reinvents the Classic Western

· NICK ERBER ·  
STAFF WRITER

When I was a kid my father always had a Western playing on the television. John Wayne movies were his favorite; my family, taken with the slow, deliberate speech and the hard-shelled demeanor of the characters, would gather around the TV and watch Wayne fight injustice in the Old West.

These old films were black-and-white affairs, lacking difficult characters and broad human crises. Adapted from pulp novels and crafted by forgotten filmmakers, these movies were escapism at its finest.

HBO's *Deadwood* engages the viewer in a completely different fashion. Despite a Western premise, executive producer and head writer David Milch generates an epic, gritty, and emotionally compelling story.

The show follows the coarse mining camp of Deadwood through its turbulent beginnings to its even more chaotic inclusion in the Dakota Territory. The environment is believable, and the dialogue is impeccably written. Most of the main characters on the show are taken from actual historical figures: Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane are essential to the

narrative.

While hyperrealism is integral to the plot and atmosphere of *Deadwood*, the writers take some artistic liberties. Seemingly excessive profanity prevails in the dialogue of emotional conversations while intricately beautiful discourse complements the more civil bits of the

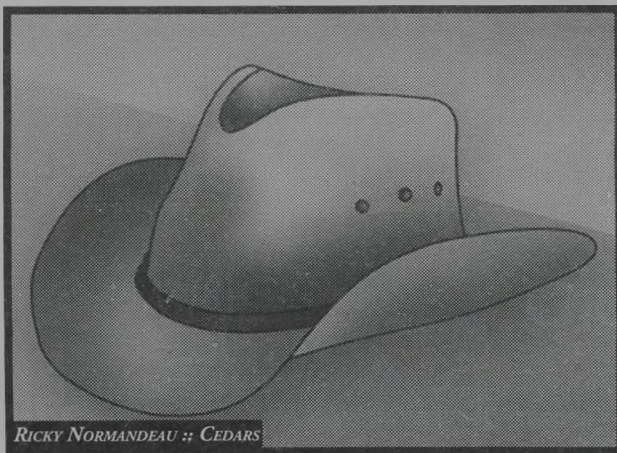
avoided at all costs: Milch shuns the typical Western motif and all of the stereotypes and sentimentality associated with it.

From resident pimp and saloon owner Al Swearengen's brutal and hilarious soliloquies—

brilliantly articulated by British actor Ian McShane—to the heart-breaking speeches of an epileptic preacher, the show is impeccably written. By the end of season one I felt the same way I feel when I enjoy a well-written novel.

*Deadwood* makes no appeal to fans of traditional Westerns. It is sordid, graphic, and sometimes offensive. Here there is no black-and-white conflict, no recycled battle between total good and total evil. Human conflict doesn't play out that way. It never has. Instead, the show is meant to be a meditation on communities, on the darker side of human nature, on attachments and on how we treat one another.

Milch and company won't be producing another season of *Deadwood*. Instead, HBO has commissioned them to produce two full-length movies to air later this year. The first two seasons of *Deadwood* are available on DVD, with the third season also due out later this year.



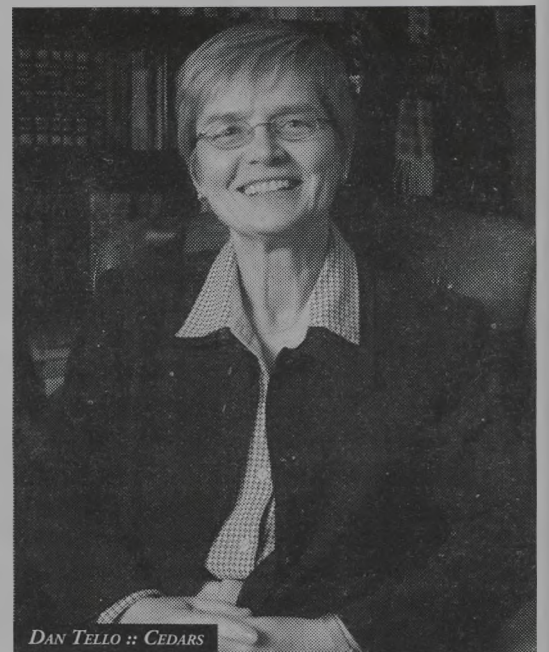
RICKY NORMANDEAU :: CEDARS

show. Milch, a former Yale professor and graduate of the University of Iowa's Writer's Workshop, writes not to shock, nor to titillate, but instead, as he put it to the *New Yorker* last February, "to realize the character's full humanness."

And he does. Unflinchingly. Milch, along with his staff of writers and directors, presents the citizens of Deadwood with more depth than I have encountered on any television program. Flippancy is

## Dream Big

· MICHAEL SHIRZADIAN ·  
STAFF WRITER



DAN TELLO :: CEDARS

Dr. Peggy Wilfong is a Professor of English, a co-sponsor of Cedarville University's chapter of the prestigious Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society, and a literary enthusiast. Not surprisingly, her favorite expression of art is literature.

"Language is inexhaustible when it comes to teasing out the meaning of the words," said Wilfong, adding, "I really enjoy the fact that you can read a text multiple times and always walk away from it with a different reading."

While Dr. Wilfong appreciates all types of literature, her particular passion is her specialty—Renaissance literature.

"It's because of the historical context," Wilfong explained. "The Renaissance was such a turbulent period; it makes me think of contemporary issues."

Wilfong likened religious conflict during the Renaissance to contemporary religious tension, pointing specifically to the animosity that existed between Catholics and Protestants during the Renaissance.

"Being a Catholic was considered a form of heresy," Wilfong said. "This reminds me of the great divide that exists between Western religion and Eastern religion that we experience today. It's the same type of vitriolic attitude; there is no attempt to understand one another."

Wilfong continued: "Another reason I am drawn to Renaissance literature is that, whether these writers were right or wrong, they believed in unlimited human potential."

Wilfong was quick to suggest that America needs to return to this sense of optimism, rather than the "cynicism that seems to grip us; we seem to be aware of how much we can't do."

It is this optimism that draws Wilfong to Renaissance literature. Wilfong observed, "As a young man, Milton said, 'When I get older I am going to write a national epic, and I'm going to try and put England on the literary map.'" Wilfong's face lit up at the notion of a Cedarville student saying, "When I get older and more seasoned, I am going to write the great American poetic epic."

In conclusion, Wilfong said: "I wish that we would dream big because our God is limitless," adding, "Through him, who knows what we can do?"

Dream big, Cedarville.

## WEEKEND EVENTS

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Charlie Brown  
Cedarville's spin on the "new  
musical entertainment"  
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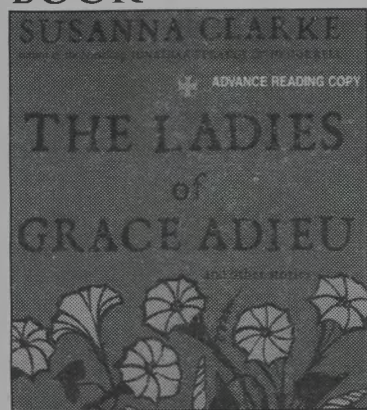
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Township Tea Parlor  
A creative date opportunity  
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\$16 / person  
www.theteaparlour.net

Carriage Rides @ The Greene  
Just in time for V-Day; benefit  
the AHA  
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\$15 / couple  
www.thegreene.com



# CEDARS | Entertainment Reviews

## BOOK



BY DENNIS NANGLE

## SUSANNA CLARKE :: *THE LADIES OF GRACE ADIEU* ★★★★★

Susanna Clarke had a tough act to follow with her second book, *The Ladies of Grace Adieu*. After the impeccably-researched, laboriously-written, and critically-acclaimed *Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell*, Clarke's sophomore effort was highly anticipated.

This 224-page collection of eight short stories is surprisingly brief compared to its 800-page predecessor. After the fairly open-ended conclusion of *Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell*, readers may be disappointed with the scant mention of only one of the famed magicians, Jonathan Strange, in the titular short story. And even in that context, Strange is simply a secondary character.

Some of the stories, including "The Ladies of Grace Adieu" and "John Uskglass and the Cumbrian Charcoal Burner," read like

they were meant to be arduous footnotes that Clarke couldn't quite fit into her first book.

While several elements of *The Ladies of Grace Adieu* are somewhat dissimilar to Clarke's previous work, what does remain in these short stories is her witty and whimsical style. Readers will delight in Clarke's tales of Mary, Queen of Scots plotting murder with embroidery, and the Duke of Wellington's fairy-induced delusions when he loses his horse.

Readers who enjoyed Clarke's effortless infusion of British history, magical legend, and Austenian feminist wit in her previous novel should pick up *The Ladies of Grace Adieu*; however, these short stories will disappoint those seeking deeper character development or an epic plot.

## FILM :: R



BY BETHANY SIBBITT

## VOLVER :: *SONY PICTURE CLASSICS* ★★★★★

*Volver*—it's the Spanish translation of the infinitive "to return."

The title offers a succinct summary of the foreign independent film starring Penelope Cruz and directed by Pedro Almodóvar.

Cruz plays Raimunda, a young mother looking out for the best interests of her family. This responsibility involves caring for an aging aunt, raising a teenage daughter, running her own business, and concealing a murder. *Volver* is a story of restoration and family ties.

Though beautifully acted, *Volver* is difficult to crystallize; it does not fit neatly into any particular category. The film offers elements of humor, drama, and suspense; indeed, merely keep-

ing up with the storyline is a challenge.

At times, it is difficult to separate plot from subplot, particularly because many of the subplots are left underdeveloped. And the ending is ambiguous at best; as the credits rolled, I found myself wondering, is that it?

Sure, *Volver* offers a lot—gorgeous scenery, cultural insight, subtitles—but it also lacks unity, and contains some nudity and inappropriate language. *Volver* was good, but it left me wanting more.

*Note: Volver was rated 'R' by the MPAA for sexual content and language. Cedars encourages readers to make thoughtful, discerning choices about the films they watch.*

## MUSIC



BY JOHN DURKEE

## SWITCHFOOT :: *OH! GRAVITY* ★★★★★

Switchfoot's *Oh! Gravity*, the band's sixth studio album, focuses on withdrawing from the fruitless pursuit of self-gratification and pursuing bigger and better things.

With *Oh! Gravity*, the band departs slightly from their more mainstream albums, supplying a much-needed dose of innovation to complement convention. This creativity is exemplified by songs like "Dirty Second Hands," with its generally boggy feel and blues acoustic guitar.

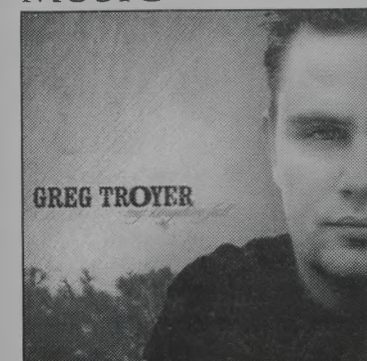
"Faust, Midas, and Myself," perhaps the best song, is similarly creative, with slow lyrical and musical builds and introductory string flourishes leading into guitar rock.

In spite of these creative bursts, Switchfoot has not abandoned their signature sound; songs like "American Dream" and "Awakening" bring several of their previous singles to mind.

While much can be said for this CD, it is not without its faults. "Amateur Lovers" is perhaps the worst song Switchfoot has ever recorded, due to its annoying screams and its mundane and repetitive melody. And the theme of self-abandon is growing a bit cliché for the band. Even so, *Oh! Gravity* offers a nice mix of old and new that satisfies the listener.

*Oh! Gravity* was released on Dec. 26 and can be purchased at local music stores or on Amazon.com. Individual songs are available on Napster.

## MUSIC



BY RACHAEL HUBIN

## GREG TROYER :: *MY KINGDOM FALL* ★★★★★

With a musical style ranging from R&B to death metal, singer/songwriter Greg Troyer eventually came to a standstill with his musical career. He felt the call to humble himself and to share Christ with his listeners.

*My Kingdom Fall* aims to capture people's struggles with their Christian walk. With combinations of R&B, pop, and local flavors which comprise the "gumbo" of the New Orleans sound, *My Kingdom Fall* pulls lyrics from Troyer's heart and puts them on paper as a prayer to God.

"These songs were just meant to be private thoughts between me and the Lord," he said. "I wanted to create the kind of worship songs I could sing honestly."

In his hit single "You Are," Troyer applies his own experience in the secular music world to what he has now chosen to do. "Now that I'm older / Sometimes I do things my own way / Still you're patient with me / As I stumble across Your will."

Troyer captures the motivation for his drastic switch from death metal to pop Christian in his song, "All That I Need." "When everything around me / Is changing in my life / You're the only One who stays the same."

*My Kingdom Fall* is not an album focused on generating cash. Troyer's goal is to glorify God through his lyrics, and—ideally—to change the lives of the people who listen to them.

## DVD :: PG 13



BY CHRISTINA GENTER

## THE ILLUSIONIST :: *YARI FILM GROUP* ★★★★★

*The Illusionist* is a movie in which nothing is as it seems.

Set in early 20th-century Vienna, the story is driven by a romance between Eisenheim the Illusionist and Sophie, the fiancée of the Crown Prince. Inspector Uhl, the chief of police, investigates Eisenheim to discover the nature of his relationship and the secrets of his magic.

Mystery, intrigue, and a violent murder are some of the obstacles Uhl encounters in his search. The answers he finds lead to a shocking confrontation and a surprising twist which viewers won't anticipate.

*The Illusionist* is visually stunning, employing magic tricks and

illusions which were actually performed by Edward Norton, the actor who portrayed Eisenheim. These tricks are realistic and convincing.

The costumes and sets featured in the film live up to the opulence of Vienna royalty and speak to the creativity of the designers.

On a personal note, the plot held my attention from the opening scene all the way to the end. At nearly two hours, that's quite an accomplishment. All things considered, *The Illusionist* is a fantastic DVD, one which I highly recommend to students with a taste for intrigue.

*Note: The Illusionist was rated 'PG-13' by the MPAA for some sexuality and violence. Cedars encourages readers to make thoughtful, discerning choices about the films they watch.*



## CEDARS | Sports

## Smart Closes in on NAIA Scoring Record

· RYAN SHORT ·  
STAFF WRITER

The 2006-2007 season for the NAIA Division II No. 4 Lady Jackets basketball team has been one of firsts, a trend that could continue. For the first time in the careers of seniors Kristi Beougher, Brittany Smart, Stacie Travis, and Karah Walton, the Lady Jackets have lost AMC South Division conference games. The first loss occurred at Ohio Dominican all the way back on Dec. 19, ending a streak of 72 straight conferences wins. After avenging the loss to Ohio Dominican, the girls again dropped a league game, this time at home against Rio Grande. However, the firsts that could take place in the last quarter of the season are much more encouraging.

After Tuesday's victory over Mount Vernon Nazarene, a game in which Smart scored 32 points, she finds herself with

2,878 career points, just 87 points off the NAIA Division II national record. Smart has a mature outlook about her chase of the record. "I think it would be a great milestone to set the national scoring record if the Lord allows that; however, all records will be broken eventually. I won't base my season as good or bad if I reach this goal or not," she explains.

When she graduates, Smart will leave behind her one of the greatest four year careers in the history of NAIA women's basketball. Smart hopes her legacy is not only one of basketball prowess, "I want to be remembered as a person who first of all loved Christ, and gave Him the honor where honor was due." It is easy to see how talent has translated into victory when the heart of the star player exalts Christ.

More important to the women's basketball pro-

gram, and to Smart herself, than any individual scoring record, is the season at hand. Now tied for first with Ohio Dominican, the Lady Jackets know it will take a total commitment to defense, night-in and night-out to win the league. Smart observes, "To win the league it will take consistency in playing defense for the whole 30 seconds with intensity and passion." If the Lady Jackets take care of business in their last nine games, they will once again win the league, since they hold the tie breaker over ODU.

The Lady Jackets will endeavor to make another trip to the National Tournament where they hope to add yet another first to the long list of this season: a National Championship. The talent and the will to win are there; it is just a matter of putting everything together and making a dream a reality.



DAN TELLO :: CEDARS  
Brittany Smart (#15) huddles the team together for a pep talk.



DAN TELLO :: CEDARS  
Karah Walton eyes her opponent.

## Player Profile :: Ryan Bundenthal

· ANDREA WALKER ·  
STAFF WRITER

Senior Nursing Major  
Track and Field Captain  
Hurdler/Sprinter

Great athletes do not simply wake up to success; it is a combination of talent, hard work, and drive to achieve their goals. So it is with senior Ryan Bundenthal, a talented track and field hurdler and relay runner, who works hard and sets his goals high.

Bundenthal began running track as a sophomore in high school because he thought it would be fun. "It really didn't go that well," he admits. "I was really slow my first year, but then junior year I came around."

Bundenthal has lowered his times each year since then, working toward constant improvement.

Although his decision to come to Cedarville was based largely on his parents' wishes, Bundenthal does not regret attending in the least. "Most of my close friendships have come from being on the team [at Cedarville]," he says.

Bundenthal runs the 60-meter hurdles in indoor track and the 400 hurdles in outdoor. He also competes in the 4 x 400-meter relay and the distance medley relay. Over the past three years, he has set school records in the 55, 60, and 110 hurdles. Bundenthal was named the 2005 NCCAA Outdoor Champion in the 110 hurdles, the 2005 AMC Champion in the 4 x 400, and two-time NCCAA All-American in both the 55 and 400 hurdles.

As his final season at Cedarville begins, Bundenthal is working toward many goals that he would like to achieve.

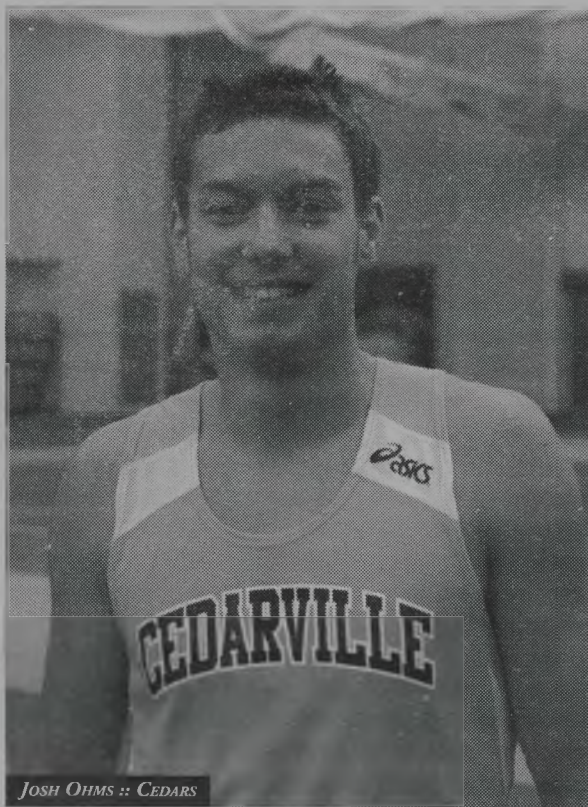
In indoor track, Bundenthal is aiming to earn an NAIA All-American title in the 60 hurdles, in which he already holds the Cedarville record of 8.44 seconds. He is also confident that the Cedarville relay team will be able to capture the National Championship in the distance medley.

Currently the record-holder in the outdoor 110 hurdles at 14.75 seconds, Bundenthal aspires not only to win the National Championship, but also to break 14 seconds—a feat that fewer than 50 people in the country have achieved. Fourteen seconds flat is the Olympic B standard; breaking it would give Bundenthal an opportunity to compete in the Olympic Trials.

In addition, Bundenthal seeks an All-American title in the 400 hurdles.

"I would also like to see Jason Scott win Nationals indoor and outdoor in pole-vault," he adds.

As Bundenthal endeavors to accomplish all of these goals, he keeps in mind his dad's advice. "My dad always said my natural talent would only take me so far, and I needed to work that extra bit," says Bundenthal. So "work that extra bit" is exactly what he plans to do.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS  
Ryan Bundenthal

CONTINUED FROM RECORDS ON FRONT PAGE

Nev. at a pole vaulting meet with the best competitors in the nation, including a number of Olympians. Scott tied for first in the elite college division, vaulting a career-best 17 feet, 6 1/2 inches, and closing in on his goal of 18-1, which would qualify him for US Indoor Nationals. Daniel Roberts, a freshman NAIA cross-country All-American, did not compete. According to Roberts, "at this point in the season the coaches just want me to concentrate on training before I get back to racing; however, next week at the home invite I should be running the mile and 5k."

The Yellow Jackets set three school records on Friday in the 55-meter hurdles, 300-meter dash, and the shot put. Ben Michaud dominated the field of NAIA and NCAA Division 3 athletes in the shot put with a launch of 53 feet, 7 inches, setting a new personal best and breaking his own school record of 52-7 1/2. As Michaud put it, "I was surprised. I was able to do a lot of training in the fall, but my legs were dead this week because I started a new lifting cycle that has a lot of volume. My focus is on Outdoor Nationals, and I won't start to rest until three to four weeks before then."

Ryan Bundenthal, who is embarking on his last season of a successful career here at Cedarville, set new school records in both the 55-meter hurdles and 300-meter dash with respective times of 7.74 seconds and 37.10 seconds. Bundenthal also showed his dedication to the team as he anchored the 1600-meter relay to a second place finish despite a severe case of dehydration.

Jim Sawin, Cedarville's senior captain high jumper, also had a successful day as he won the high jump and reached the finals of the 55-meter dash. Sawin won the high jump with a new personal best and NAIA National qualifying mark of 6 feet, 9 inches. Sawin debated whether or not to go for the school record with a jump of 6-11 1/4 or attempt 7-0 1/4 until he got a call from Scott in Reno. "Jason told me that I had to go for the 7-0 jump," said Sawin. After he called, 6-11 1/4 was no longer an option." Sawin failed to clear 7-0 1/4, however, he has established himself early on as one of the premier high jumpers in the NAIA.

In the distance events, Coach Orchard summed it up the best when he said, "most of the runners were just using this meet as a training meet. Five out of the top seven from cross country weren't even running, we used it as a training day."

Both the men and women will be competing at home at the Cedarville Invitational on Friday, Jan. 26 at 4 p.m. Come support what could be the best Cedarville University track and field program in the history of the school!



## Men's Basketball: Rides Five Game Winning Streak

• RYAN MOSHER •  
STAFF WRITER

The Cedarville men's basketball team has experienced a series of highs and lows throughout the season and currently holds a 15-5 record overall. With two-thirds of the season already completed, the Jackets hope to make a final push to secure a trip to Point Lookout, Missouri after falling short last season.

The Yellow Jackets got out to a quick start at the beginning of the season, winning their first eight games. They were ranked as high as No. 9 in the nation during this streak and enjoyed an equal number of home and away victories. However, streaks in basketball go both ways.

After winning their first eight games, the Yellow Jackets dropped five of their next six contests. They first traveled to long-time rival Wittenberg University, just up the road in Springfield, Ohio. The Tigers handed the Jackets their first loss of the season 66-61, which began the team's mid-season de-

mise. Cedarville won their next game, but they failed to find a victory again over the next four, playing two No. 1 ranked teams in their respective divisions (College of Wooster, Huntington University) before reaching a season low of losing to 0-13 Tiffin by a score of 78-71.

Tyler Yoder, senior post player, had this to say about the losing streak: "Our lack of experience was really showcased in the four-game losing streak. We have been blessed with a myriad of young talent on our team. With youth, however, comes inexperience."

Dropping as low as No. 20 in the NAIA after losing four straight games, the Yellow Jackets needed to turn it around, and they did. With six wins in a row, Cedarville seems to have righted the ship with the help of Ryan Short. Guy Rathmell, senior from West Windsor, N.Y. said, "...certain players, like 'Shorty', are making sure that we don't lose again. Big players step up during difficult times."

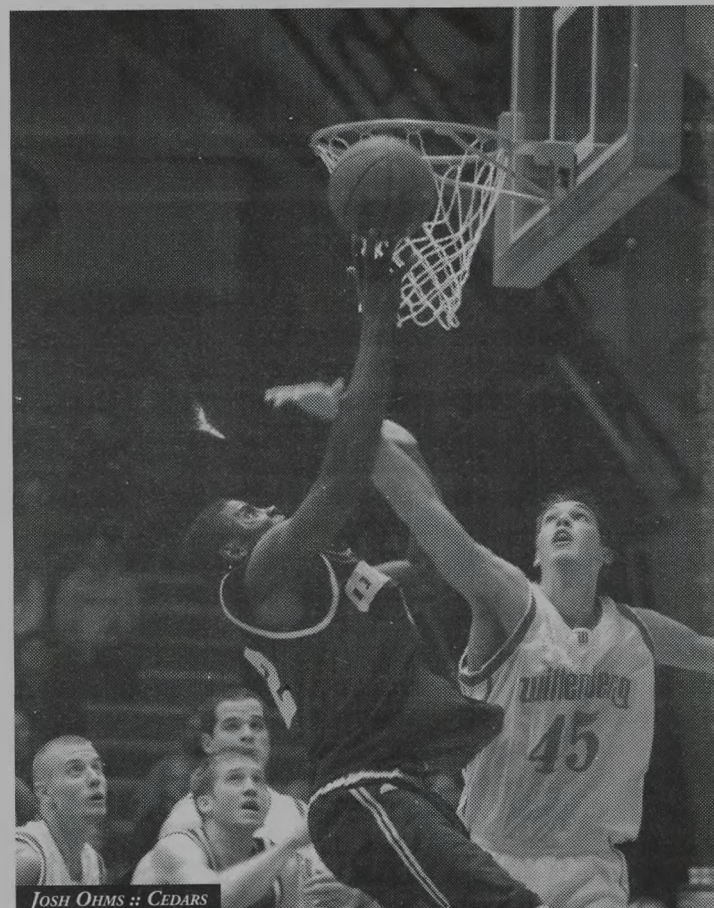
Short has averaged 22.8 points

in the last five games and has led the Jackets to a second place spot in the AMC South Division with a 9-2 record. Although the men are successful once again after a mid-season drought, Yoder and the rest of the team realize that "basketball is first and foremost a platform for sharing and showing Christ."

Win or lose, the Jackets have an opportunity every time they step onto the floor to impact lives for eternity. According to Yoder, that's what matters, "No matter what happens this season, or how far we make it in the post-season, these guys love Jesus Christ with all they have."

Rathmell added to that, "I'm just thankful to God that he has given me this opportunity to be a part of something like Cedarville."

Streaks end, careers fade away, but the love of Jesus Christ never fails. Cedarville's basketball team embraces these truths, and they hope to be a light on the national stage, en route to a national championship.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Ricardo Alliman tips in a missed CU shot.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Chris Walker attempts a shot at the charity stripe.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Eric Leininger (#24) holds his ground.

## X-TRA POINTS

• JIM SAWIN •  
SPORTS EDITOR

### • Scott Breaks Indoor Pole Vault Record

Cedarville track and field star Jason Scott broke his own school record last Saturday, clearing 17 feet, 6 1/2 inches at the National Pole Vault Summit in Reno, Nev., tying for first in the elite college division. The best vaulters in the nation, including current and former Olympians, competed at this high-profile event. Scott has three weeks to qualify for the U.S. Indoor Track and Field Championships, which will take place on Feb. 24-25 at Reggie Lewis Track & Athletic Center in Boston, Mass. The qualifying standard in the pole vault is 18 feet, 1 inch, so Scott has a decent shot at competing on America's biggest stage while still at Cedarville. You

can watch Jason attempt to qualify this Saturday at the Cedarville University Collegiate Indoor Invitational in the Doden Field House.

### • Manning Finally Makes it to the Super Bowl

Tom Brady and the New England Patriots found themselves in a rare spot Sunday night with their heads down instead of celebrating. Peyton Manning finally got the monkey off his back and defeated the Patriots, a feat the Indianapolis Colts quarterback failed to do in two previous playoff games against rival New England where he posted one touchdown pass and five interceptions in those two match-ups.

Manning played much better on Sunday night, leading the Colts to a 38-34 victo-

ry after trailing by 18 points at halftime. He threw for 349 yards, while only throwing one interception, punching his ticket to Miami, Fla. for his first career trip to the Super Bowl. Although Manning has put up astounding passing numbers throughout his career, he has been most widely known for not being able to win the "big game". All that changed on Sunday, and Manning hopes to repeat his success of this past weekend against the Chicago Bears in Super Bowl XLI to avoid becoming the next Dan Marino. Marino holds numerous passing records, but only made it to one Super Bowl in which he lost. Time will tell if Manning will follow in the footsteps of Marino or Brady.



RICKY NORMANDEAU :: CEDARS



# Women's Track Wins 3 Events at ONU; Prepares for Cedarville Invite

· KERI HILTY ·  
STAFF WRITER

The Lady Jackets opened their 2007 indoor track season with a promising performance at Ohio Northern University in Ada, Ohio. Cedarville finished fourth in an eight team field led by the University of Dayton with 234 points. They were followed by the University of Findlay (188), Ohio Northern (117), and Cedarville (89.5). Also competing were Tiffin, Wilmington, Pluffton, and Defiance College.

Two Cedarville women earned NAIA qualifying marks and three school records were broken at the opening meet. Emily Peacock won the weight throw competition with a heave of 50 feet, 6 inches to qualify for Indoor Nationals, breaking her own school record. The women's distance medley relay of Elisabeth Pyles, Elise O'Neal, Lydia Wong, and Sam Maat Modderman also qualified for nationals

with a time of 12:38.80. Other top performances for the Lady Jackets included Stacey Keller winning the 1000-meters by nearly five seconds in 3:07.97 and Courtney Reid's record-breaking 300-meter dash in 42.48 seconds, which was good enough for second place overall. A complete list of meet results can be found on Cedarville's athletic website on the student homepage.

The women have eight seniors and 11 freshmen on the team this season. This balance of talented freshmen and experienced upperclassmen should immediately contribute to the success of the program.

"It's exciting because we have a lot of young talent on the team and upperclassmen who were injured and are now coming back to compete again," said senior captain Modderman. "With such a big group of up-

perclassmen who are great leaders, they will be able to help the team along by encouraging everyone."

Reid, a junior sprinter and hurdler, also commented on the team's performance saying, "The meet showed how much potential the team has, and I'm really excited to see how we will perform with so much talent."

This team is bursting with potential. However, mere promise doesn't create a great program. The Lady Jackets need to continue to exercise their potential through great performances in order to be the team to beat in the NCCAA this year. Next up for the Lady Jackets will be the Cedarville Invitational in the Doden Field House on Friday, Jan. 26 at 4 p.m. All students and faculty are encouraged to come and cheer for both the men's and women's teams as they compete!



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Stacey Keller at the beginning of her victorious 1000m race.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Shannon DeRusha (left), Melissa Wysong (middle), and Audree Goodew (right) at the start of the 800m race.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Men and women's track pray in the infield at ONU before the meet.

## WEBSITE GIVES JACKET FANS SOMETHING TO "TYPE" ABOUT

· RICHIE REEDER ·  
STAFF WRITER

Let's face it. Our society is becoming more technologically inclined. And that's OK. In a culture where 5-year olds know how to check e-mail and the weather with a couple clicks of a mouse and where teenagers spend most of their evening typing in chat rooms and Instant Messenger, as a society we are glued to the computer more than ever. With America's craving for entertainment and sports enhanced by instant access to the Internet, it would only make sense that sports Web sites would be the talk of the town.

One such Web site that is relatively unknown among Cedarville University students is backthejackets.com. Backthejackets.com is an up-and-coming Web site that highlights Cedarville University basketball. Its goal, as stated on the Web site, is "to give

Cedarville basketball fans a place to read about and discuss Jacket hoops." At first glance, backthejackets.com appears to have almost exactly the same information as the Cedarville University Sports Information Department Web site. However, after a closer look, this premium Xanga site has a few special features that could be exciting for many Yellow Jacket basketball fans.

Backthejackets.com features daily posts throughout the Cedarville

basketball season with opportunities for Yellow Jacket fans to post their

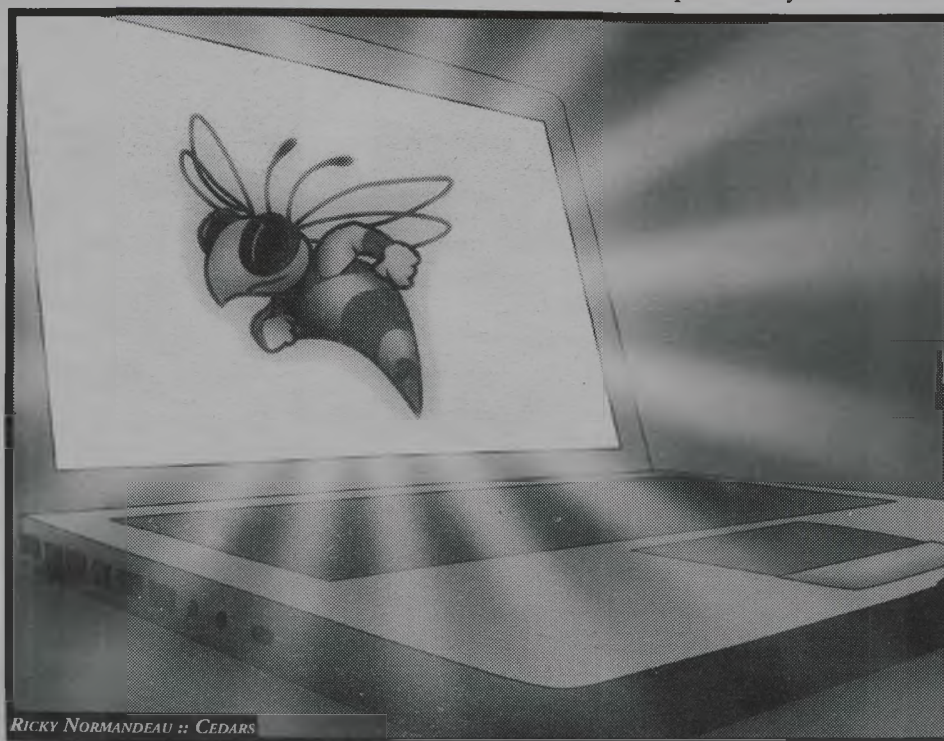
ets History, and Back The Jacket Interviews are a few of the unique weekly

over Ohio and Web sites that feature Yellow Jacket stories, player biographies, and game notes.

The Web site was officially started on Jan. 12, 2006 and has received very little buzz among Cedarville students, even those who call themselves avid Yellow Jacket basketball fans. The site averages 23 hits per day, with an average visit length of 1 minute and 48

Dayton area, the site has recently picked up Xanga users from cities across the United States such as Raleigh, N.C.; Elmhurst, Ill.; Franklin, Tenn.; Portland, Ore.; and Ridgewood, N.Y. Yellow Jacket fans are everywhere!

The site promises "honest and friendly evaluations of the basketball season, teams, players, coaches, and officials," and that's what you get with backthejackets.com. Cedars gives backthejackets.com a rating of B-, but with increased traffic to the site this could become an A+ Web site in the near future. If you're a Yellow Jacket basketball fan and like to discuss your opinions with others, then this is the site for you. The next time you find yourself killing time on Facebook late at night, type in backthejackets.com and check it out!



RICKY NORMANDEAU :: CEDARS

own opinions and comments about the games. Key Plays, Game Notes, This Day in Recent Jack-

headlines that appear in this column. The site also links its visitors to various newspaper articles from all

seconds. However, it's interesting to note that while many of the site users are from the Cedarville and




Price and participation may vary.  
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pretty  
much  
the same  
price  
as  
MOOCHING  
your  
roommate's  
food.

Dollar  Menu  
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CU SCOREBOARD			
Men's Indoor Track and Field			
19-Jan	at Ohio Northern	Ada, OH	3rd of 7
26-Jan	CEDARVILLE INVITATIONAL	Doden Field House	4:00 PM
2-Feb	at Indiana Relays	Bloomington, IN	4:00 PM
3-Feb	at Indiana Relays	Bloomington, IN	11:00 AM
Women's Indoor Track and Field			
19-Jan	at Ohio Northern	Ada, OH	4th of 8
26-Jan	CEDARVILLE INVITATIONAL	Doden Field House	4:00 PM
2-Feb	at Indiana Relays	Bloomington, IN	4:00 PM
3-Feb	at Indiana Relays	Bloomington, IN	11:00 AM
Men's Basketball			
20-Jan	RIO GRANDE	Win	96-72
23-Jan	MOUNT VERNON NAZARENE	Win	90-67
27-Jan	at Walsh	North Canton, OH	4:00 PM
30-Jan	at Wilberforce	Wilberforce, OH	8:00 PM
3-Feb	SHAWNEE STATE	Cedarville	7:30 PM
Women's Basketball			
20-Jan	RIO GRANDE	Loss	97-100
23-Jan	MOUNT VERNON NAZARENE	Win	76-63
27-Jan	at Walsh	North Canton, OH	2:00 PM
30-Jan	at Wilberforce	Wilberforce, OH	6:00 PM
3-Feb	SHAWNEE STATE	Cedarville	5:30 PM




▼ Haewah Ruth Hermiz  
Graduate Student

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## off.campus // Decorating by the Decades

· HEIDI CHARLTON ·  
STAFF WRITER

Are you looking to add a little 50s flair to your house, or to give your apartment some 70s style? Decorating by the decades can be a unique, inexpensive way to spruce up those dull, hard-to-decorate spaces. Check out grandparents' houses, garage sales, thrift stores, antique shops, local auctions and even eBay for vintage items to accent any room.

The 50s were all about color contrast, so keep that in mind as you begin to peruse those attics and garages for useable items. Combine light and dark colors for a really swell look: think black-and-white checkered linoleum or pink-and-black polka dotted skirts. Other options include vinyl covered stainless steel bar stools and sunburst design clocks. Satellite chairs and record album storage cabinets were also popular during the fifties. Whether or not you use the cabinet to house old 45's, it will definitely give your space a hip look.

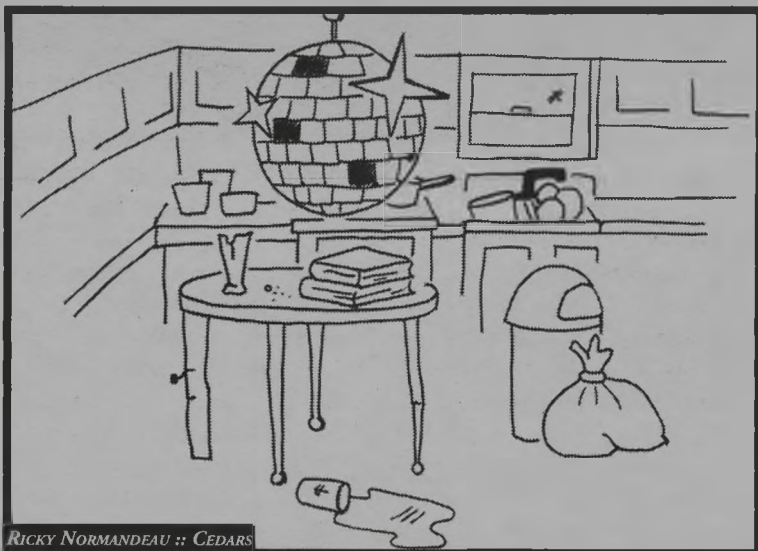
If you're looking for a far-out style, then the 60s is the decade for you. Psychedelic swirls and rounded shapes capture the fluidity of a time that was fraught with political and psychological instability. Bold colors like aqua and turquoise, cartoon-like flowers, peace signs and lava lamps are all great ways to recreate 60s style without spending a lot of money. When in doubt, think Austin Powers.

If you dig colors like avocado, rust and gold, then the 70s might appeal more to your tastes. Flokati rugs are a totally righteous way to enhance any

drab looking floor space. These wooly rugs from New Zealand are usually found in natural, creamy colors, but can be dyed to match almost anything. Mirror balls, beaded curtains and black lights will transform your room into a truly groovy hangout.

Finally, the 80s. Perhaps the décor in your parents' home hasn't changed since you learned to walk in 1987, but for those who choose to embrace the latest 80s invasion, here are some tips for making your space into a really kickin' place to chill. Shag carpet was huge during the 80s, as were metallic jewel tones and a resurgence of art deco. Think hard edges and square shapes, a departure from the smooth surfaces of the 60s and 70s.

Decorating doesn't have to cost a fortune, so whichever decade you choose, remember to raid those closets and antique shops for great bargains on items to coordinate any style.



RICKY NORMANDEAU :: CEDARS

Birchtown College  
Board of Trustees

## Memo

To: Student Body  
From: Board of Trustees  
Date: 1/24/2007  
Re: The Latest Trends

Dear Students:

**Attention.** It has come to my attention that there are some among you who have let your guards down. That is to say, you are not acting like noble Bereans. In fact, you are not acting noble at all.

This world is full of sin and folly. This is why we must avoid worldliness; if we participate in the world, we participate in sin. On recent occasions, Hollywood has joined forces with Satan to produce cultural fads with the express purpose of distancing students like you from God. These latest trends are not only dangerous, but are becoming very common. In fact, on an authoritative website ([www.fillthevoid.org](http://www.fillthevoid.org)) I was troubled to learn that these trends are invading the lives of young Christians everywhere.

Here are the facts.

- **Pokémon.** These devilish monsters are very popular amongst the youth of today. They are shown on television, and are also part of a card game which young people spend hours playing while they could be reading the Bible. However, these are the facts. Pokémon are actually agents of the devil. Do you hear them chant their names? This is what Buddhists and Hindus do. "Bulbasaur! Bulbasaur!" How about "Bulba-sore?" Also, they are captured in red capsules called Poke-balls and released in battle. Not only is this symbolic of the use of evil spirits, but the color red means that Pokémon supports communism. This is against the Christian worldview, and should be abandoned.
- **Captain Planet.** Everyone's watching this cartoon, or so my sources tell me. Well, I have news for you, students—Captain Planet is demonic and socialist! It is demonic because the kids all use the powers of Wicca—earth, wind, water, fire, and "heart" (black magic). It is socialist because Captain Planet is an environmentalist! All he cares about is stopping pollution of the earth. Well—all I care about is stopping pollution of the heart!
- **Harry Potter.** These books recently came out, and they are causing shockwaves in America. Have you heard that Harry Potter is a "fun read"? Only as fun as serving the devil! Harry Potter supports all manner of witchcraft and sodomy, such as breaking school rules and drinking blood. In Harry Potter, white is black and black is white; witches are good and Christians are evil! Also, authority figures are made to look foolish. Students who enjoy Harry Potter should read something more profitable, like *The Chronicles of Narnia* or Tim Baker's acclaimed book, *Dewitched: What You Need to Know about the Dangers of Witchcraft and Wicca*.
- **Secular Music.** This one is a doozy! Apparently, some of you students are listening to secular music! I would have thought you were smarter than that! Secular music is full of all kinds of evil—sex is good, everyone should do drugs, and God is dead! I know how young people enjoy their Walkmans, so I have some suggestions for alternatives to today's hottest bands. Do you like Master P? Try listening to Nuwine! Do you like Aaron Carter? Try listening to Jump5! Do you like Creed? Try listening to Kutless!
- **Will & Grace.** This abominable TV show has everyone talking, but did you know the creators are trying to turn young Americans to homosexuality? The show is chock full of the gay agenda. Just listen to this quote: "This is yet another show where the homosexual lifestyle is openly promoted. In Leviticus 18:22, God calls this 'detestable'. If you can approvingly watch a show about what the Divine Creator of the Universe calls 'detestable', you need to seriously re-examine your outlook." Enough said!

With concern, but with even greater love,  
B. Gradgrind

O Kuboton,  
my Kuboton!· MELANIE FRAGEORGIA ·  
STAFF WRITER

No thrill ride will ever offer the adrenaline rush of running through the airport while your name is paged over the intercom.

No disappointment in love or money will ever equal watching the baggage carousel stop sans the appearance of your bag. It's quite a descent from over 30,000 feet to the depths of despair.

I've had these experiences and more because I fly home for just about every significant break. I live 800 miles from Cedarville, and — well, let's put it this way: my experience with finding car rides on CU Classifieds has left much to be desired. So I fly frequently.

But back in the days of freshmanhood, I had little flying experience under my belt. When it came time to fly home for Thanksgiving break it was only the second time I had flown and my first time flying alone. So I walked into the airport feeling simultaneously like an adventurous adult and a small, frightened child.

Checking the bag went fine. On to security. I plunked my mini messenger bag onto the conveyor belt, and it went through the x-ray machine. Then the conveyor belt backed up and it went through again. And again. Uh-oh. My nervousness peaked when the security guy put on gloves and told me he'd have to search my little bag.

And that's when I remembered the thingamajig.

My brother "lent" me the thingamajig a few years earlier, and when people asked me what it was I'd tell them it was a self defense device. That's because I

didn't know what it was. All I knew was that it looked cool on my keychain and if anybody attacked me, I was going to hit them with it. It was a short metal rod with finger grips and a blunt tip. It was painted black and looked very devilish indeed. And they were about to find it in my bag.

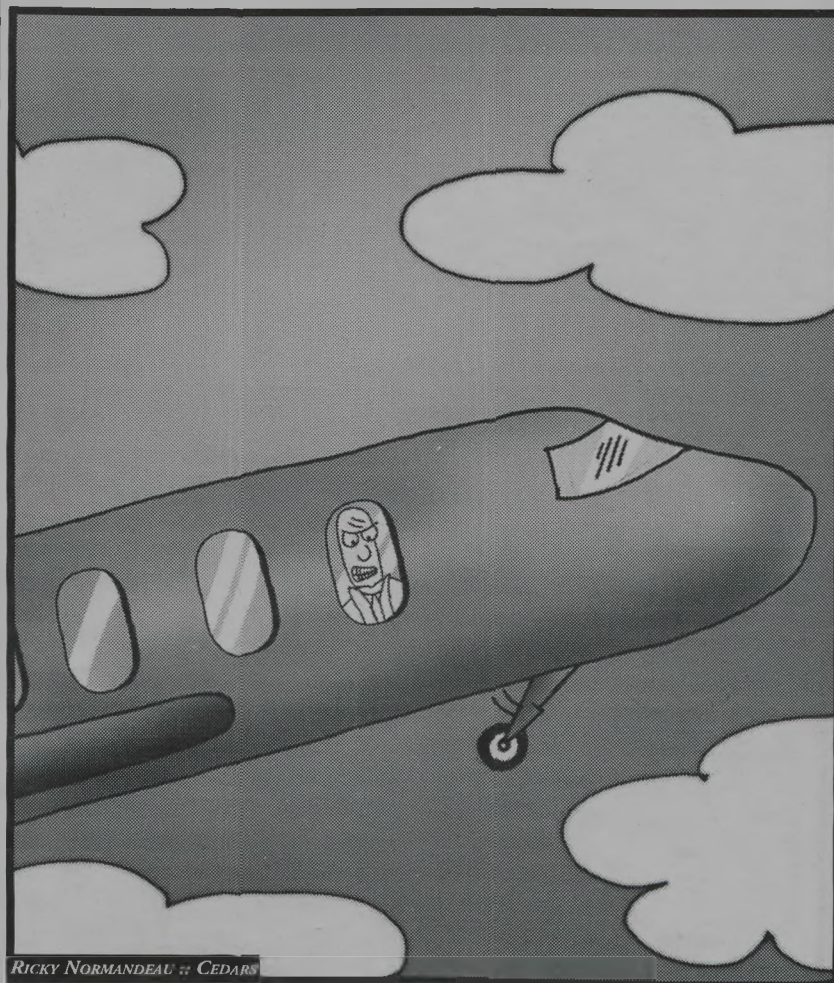
My first thought was that if I told the security guy what was in there before he found it, I might seem less suspicious. So I started babbling a description of the "thing" as he pulled it out.

Then came the scary part. The security guy took my license and had me fill out an information form about myself. No, that's not the scary part. The scary part was the part when he told me he had to call the police. Great! Now I'm going to be taken away in handcuffs! All I wanted was to go home and eat turkey with my family.

After about a million years of heart-pounding suspense, the guy got off the phone with the police and told me that they weren't going to come and arrest me, but that he would have to confiscate my thingamajig. Which was apparently a martial arts weapon called a kuboton. The guy wouldn't let me mail it to myself, not even after I told him it was a present and therefore had sentimental value. Oh well, at least I know the name for it now.

A few months later I received a government letter saying that they weren't going to press charges this time, but that my name is on a list of people who are a threat to national security.

Sweet.



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# Dining In

## Recipes For The Microwave

**Scrambled eggs:** Beat two eggs in a bowl and add 2 tablespoons of milk, with salt and pepper. Melt 2 teaspoons of margarine in a 1-quart casserole dish in microwave (30 seconds). Pour egg mixture into dish and cook uncovered 3 to 4 minutes. Remove and let stand covered for 2 minutes. Vary the dish by adding any of the following: 1/4 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce, 1/3 cup chopped and peeled tomato or onion, 1/4 finely shredded cheese, or 1/2 cup spinach.

**Mini pizzas:** Toast 4 English muffins, top with 1 can (8 oz.) tomato sauce, 1/2 teaspoon oregano, dash of garlic powder and mozzarella cheese. Cook uncovered 1 to 2 minutes. Optional toppings: green pepper strips, pepperoni, slices of mushroom, grated Parmesan cheese and chopped onion.

**Barbecued hot dogs:** Mix 1/2 cup ketchup, 1/4 cup chili sauce, 1/4 cup water, 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce and 1 teaspoon dry prepared mustard. Put mixture in round, glass dish. Add hot dogs and coat with mixture. Cover with waxed paper and cook 5 to 6 minutes.

# en Vogue

JOE DUGAN  
THE CURRENT EDITOR



Thumbs up to Lindsay Lohan for her "proactive decision to take care of [her] personal health" — i.e., rehab. It's about time, Lins.



Thumbs down to Kat McPhee for abandoning jazzy sophistication and joining the ranks of celebrity pop tarts with the scandalous photo shoot for her self-titled freshman release.



Thumbs down to the exhibitors at the Fall 2007 Fashion Week in Milan. Regardless of the endless eighties, men must never, never wear maroon leggings.



Thumbs up to Hilary for forming a presidential exploratory committee. While her policies are questionable, she should be commended for sticking out her neck as the first significant female competitor for our nation's highest office.



Thumbs down to Hugo Chavez for his latest rant against the powers that be in Washington. Give it up, Hugo — no one cares anymore.



Thumbs up to braising. It's great for chilly days and wintry nights; it floods kitchens with steamy aromas which warm the hearts of young scholars burdened by the weight of the snow.



Thumbs up to Lazarus, the duck that wouldn't die — even after a hunter shot him and stashed him in a refrigerator for two days.

# THE DARK SIDE OF A QUICK FIX

JOE DUGAN  
THE CURRENT EDITOR

It's one of those mornings. You're sitting in class, tapping your pencil in time with the clock's second-hand. The fluorescent bulb above you stings your eyes, and you cannot concentrate because of the sledgehammer smacking your skull.

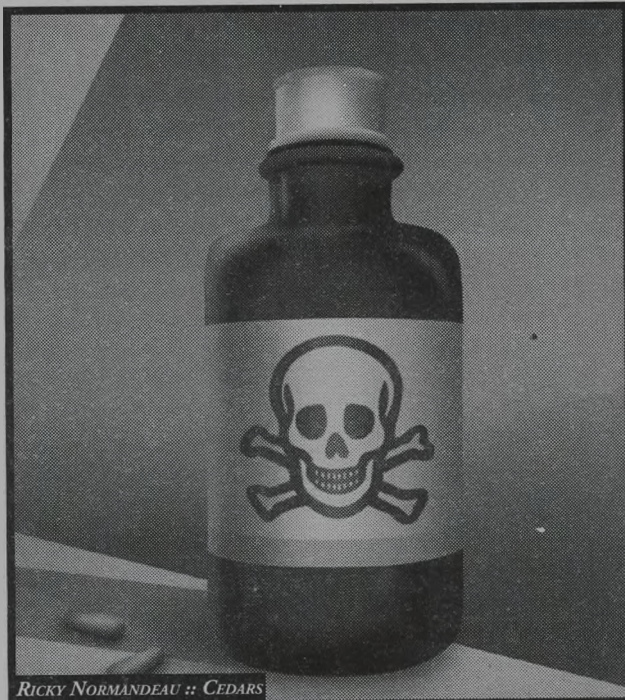
Before you excuse yourself to the restroom to pop a few of your favorite pills, consider this: some of the most common over-the-counter drugs carry significant side effects. Some of these side effects are unpleasant; others are downright dangerous, yet many students are completely unaware of the cost of self-medication.

Consider these popular drugs:

1) Tylenol, the highest-grossing aches-and-pains medication, is also one of the riskiest to use. The active ingredient in Tylenol, acetaminophen, has a narrow therapeutic index. In other words, the therapeutic dose is very close to the toxic dose. Acetaminophen, also known as paracetamol, is particularly dangerous because the actual toxicity levels fluctuate considerably from person to person. Thus, a reasonably safe usage for one person could be harmful for another. Worse yet, the symptoms of a

toxic dose are generally mild at first; they progress from slight to critical with little time for the unfortunate invalid to seek medical attention. A side note: the risks associated with acetaminophen are signifi-

have a predisposition to ward reactions to sunlight. Along with a number of common over-the-counter drugs, ibuprofen has been connected with the increased risk of myocardial infarction.



RICKY NORMANDEAU :: CEDARS

cantly heightened during periods of fasting.

2) Advil, the popular alternative to Tylenol, is less risky but still problematic. The active ingredient in Advil, ibuprofen, carries possible low-dosage side effects including nausea, dyspepsia, dizziness, hypertension, and—irony of ironies—headache. Ibuprofen is a photosensitizing agent; it is particularly dangerous for those who

3) Students who have seen commercials advertising Bayer and other aspirin-based products are familiar with aspirin's power to counter the effects of a heart attack. However, students may be unaware that these little pills are dangerous, especially if they are handled recklessly. Several hundred people die every year from aspirin overdoses. Even in less extreme situations, aspirin

commonly results in side effects including dizziness and gastrointestinal pain. These conditions worsen as the dosage increases, but low-dose aspirin is threatening as well. A report in the *American Journal of Medicine* (2006) found that "Low-dose aspirin increases the risk of major bleeding two-fold compared with placebo." While children should never consume aspirin, due to the increased risk of Reye's Syndrome associated with it, students with allergies, asthma, diabetes, or blood disorders should also avoid this drug.

Tylenol, Advil and Bayer are just a few of the common drugs which students at Cedarville take to relieve discomfort and pain. However, the potential costs associated with these pain relievers may be too great to justify their use. Minimally, students should approach these and other over-the-counter drugs with caution and awareness, in order to avoid the potentially harmful consequences of a quick fix.

*Information cited in this article is attributed to Wikipedia. This article is informational; no statements, explicit or implied, should be taken as expert advice. Students with medical concerns should contact University Medical Services.*

# To Tell The Truth

JACK LEGG  
STAFF WRITER

"Hello. My name is Tex McGriff and I am addicted to almonds."

With these words, I introduced myself at the Clinic for Pathological Liars.

My problem began, as most problems do, after I opened a Facebook account. At first, everything seemed great. I even received frequent pokes.

But my world came crashing down when some friends began to accuse me of embellishing the details on my profile. Believe it or not, they questioned whether I was ever an FBI agent, whether I have been to outer space, and whether Oprah Winfrey is my wife. In short, they called me a liar.

I assured my friends that I was telling the truth and that their accusations were groundless, for I have always been a man of integrity. Besides, we all know that it is impossible to lie when posting information on the Internet.

Despite my objections, my closest friend—who up until quite recently believed that I beat George Foreman in a wrestling match—told me that my tendency to stretch the truth had to end. He claimed that dishonesty was "bad" and that to lie to friends was "cruel." He also said something about exaggerating to compensate for my pitiful life. Whatever. Then he forced me to seek treatment at the Clinic for Pathological Liars.

It was not fair. If they had bothered to learn why I started Facebooking in the first place, they would have realized I had no reason to lie. In fact, my story is pretty typical.

It all began one day as I was walking along Cedar Lake. Suddenly, a mermaid popped out of the water and said to me, "You really ought to start a Facebook account."

"Really?" I asked.

"Yes. And tell the engineers to stop having those cardboard canoe races. The debris really clutters the lake."

The mermaid explained that she wanted me to use Facebook to expose a villain's secret plot. You

see, West Virginia had plans to stockpile firecrackers in an underground bunker until they had enough to blow up the moon. Once the moon was out of the way, they planned to control the tides, wiping out unsuspecting sandcastles hours before their intended demise.

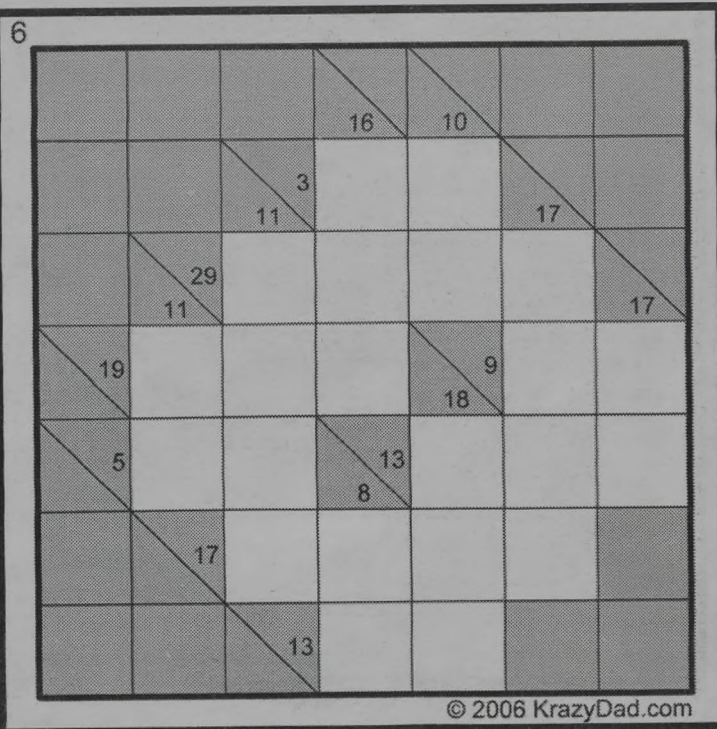
I could not let that happen.

I needed some money to buy a computer, so I ended up getting a job at Nestle Chocolate making Crunch bars. By the way, did you ever wonder what those crunchy things are in the Crunch bar? They are human bones. We used to grind up the bones of our competitors and pour them into the chocolate mix.

Anyway, I bought the computer and opened a Facebook account, just as the mermaid had instructed. Luckily, when West Virginia saw that I had posted their plans online, they admitted defeat and turned themselves in to the authorities.

And that is why I started Facebook. I had no reason to lie on my profile. I just wanted to foil an evil scheme.

And that's the truth, or my name isn't Tex McGriff.



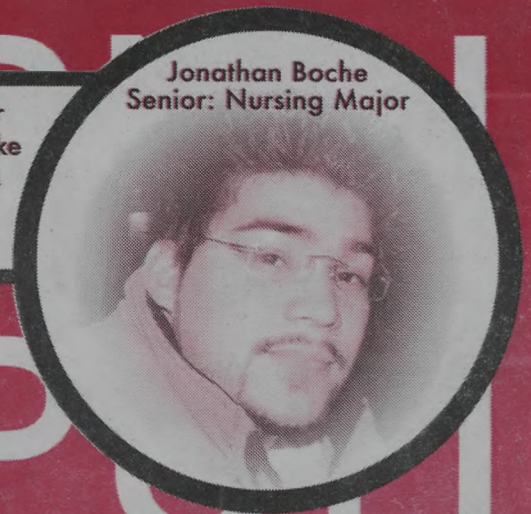


WHAT IS THE NUMBER  
ONE ISSUE WHICH  
CEDARVILLE'S STUDENT  
LIFE DIVISION SHOULD  
ADDRESS THIS  
SEMESTER?



Carla Tenuta  
Freshman: Early Education

Sean Green  
Sophomore: Graphic Design



Jonathan Boche  
Senior: Nursing Major

"Jeans in Chucks - who really cares? It's more of a social environment than a class setting requiring class dress."



Kristie Febo  
Junior: Spanish Major

"Cedarville needs to prepare students for the defense of its Biblical stance on homosexuality, with an emphasis on the love and grace of the Gospel."



Loren Nielsen  
Freshman: Youth Ministry

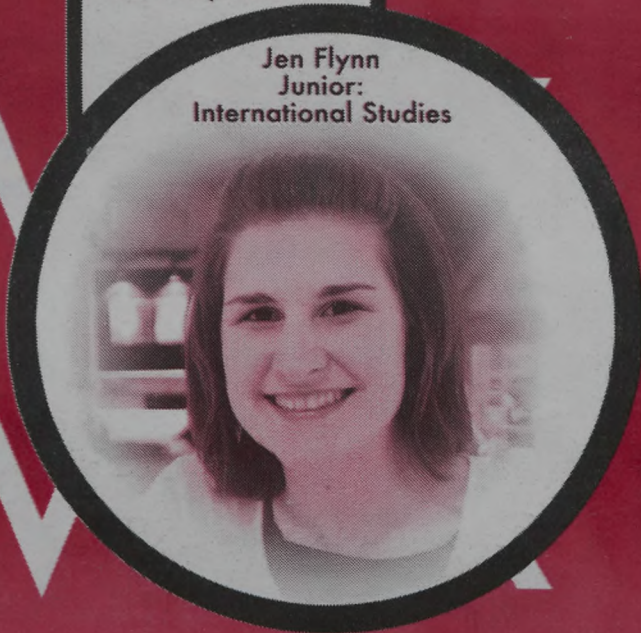
"A later curfew."



Tim Cochran  
Sophomore: Youth Ministry

"Remove the Spiritual Formation Reports, and instead maybe incorporate that into one of the Bible Minor classes in the form of a final essay describing your spiritual growth while at Cedarville."

"It'd be nice if we could have TV's in our rooms because sometimes its nice just to sit down and chill. It's not really different than watching shows on the computers"



Jen Flynn  
Junior:  
International Studies

## COLOR AGAINST MY SPINE

CLAIRE S. KAEMMERLING

There is a curtain over the white space, the depth  
Of hoi polloi and the wealth dallying brings. The

Double reality of hulls in the hands of quack doctors,  
The unfinished artistic imitation and off-center

Quality of this excess is all a part of  
The thickness you etch into your dreams - Jones

From the corner bakery dropping alms into  
Crying hands so they can buy

Nature and the frozen pond too and hang  
Them behind their religious meditation.